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REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

*The Eccalcobion; * a Treatise on Artificial Incubation.* In 2 Parts. By William Bucknell. 8vo. pp. 56. London, 1839. Published for the Author.

THIS pamphlet is descriptive of the Exhibition in Pall Mall; and, together with that exhibition, merits a more distinct notice than we have hitherto found an opportunity to give to either.

The hatching of chickens by heat, here termed "the production of animal life by machinery," is of ancient date, and has long been practised in Egypt down to the present day. We like the former phrase better, for the simple fact that the heat is applied through the medium of a well-contrived machine does not, in reality, constitute machinery the producer of life. But, enough of the terms: the exhibition itself is one of great interest. In this room alone it is possible to bring into existence, through winter as well as summer, a hundred birds in a day, or upwards of 40,000 in a year. Artificial incubation may, therefore, be made to contribute to abundance and the luxuries of life.

It is, however, as affording curious means for investigating the process of nature in advancing an organic substance to vitality, that we chiefly prize this exhibition. Eggs may be broken daily, as they proceed in their development and examined by the aid of the microscope; thus exposing to view the actual commencement of life, and the gradual formation of those members which life is to animate. It is a remarkable sight; and, by analogy, throws a strong light upon the most abstruse subjects of physical inquiry.

We had the curiosity to observe some experiments of this kind, and were much delighted with the results. About the fourth or fifth day (we speak from memory) the first trace of a distinguishable organ appeared, where an opaque and cloudy spot had hitherto been witnessed. This was the heart of the bird. By placing the egg conveniently on cotton, in a common wine-glass, with water at 98°, and keeping it to that temperature, it was easy to continue the observation for eight or ten hours. From the heart, fine filaments spread over the surrounding surface. Anon, circulation began to appear in them; and soon we were able to distinguish the auricles, veins, and arteries, in full play—in one, yellowish atoms flowing rapidly like sand in an hour-glass; and in the other, assuming a redder colour. The contemplation was beautiful. Again, a dark speck was observed; and, even before this single broken egg was exhausted, it was ascertained to be the future eye of the chicken, whose rudiments were now shaping out from chaos.

Day after day similar microscopic inspection will shew how the work advances—fibres, brain, intestines, muscle, bone, beak, feathers, are all forged in this wonderful sphere—the yolk, and the white, and the shell, contributing their various functions, till about the fourteenth or fifteenth day, when the pamphlet says:—

* *Ἐκκαλίω*, I bring forth, and *Βίωζ*, life.

"During the last week of incubation, the birds are so far matured in the shells, that any visitor wishing to enjoy the gratification of hatching them at home, may do so without difficulty, by simply keeping them moderately warm; the warmth of the human body, or 98° of Fahrenheit, being the standard."

This latter experiment we certainly did not try, for we were unwilling literally to hatch our own chickens, and did not relish the idea of counting them before they were hatched.

We will not enter into the somewhat florid and advertistical description of the machine, which is capable of containing above 2000 eggs at a time; but some of the relative facts deserve note. Greater heat is required to bring forward, say 1000 fresh eggs, than to mature 1000 during the last week of incubation. Thus a heat is, after a while, generated by the eggs themselves; or a lesser heat is required at the end than at the beginning.

"Birds in a healthy condition require no assistance to effect their escape from the shell; which operation they perform in a remarkable and uniform manner, making a circular fracture of the shell with their bill, and bursting its integuments by strong muscular exertion. In cases of weakness in the bird, or defective hatching, assistance may be given; but such birds generally die in a few days, or, perhaps, hours. Darkness is also considered favourable to the process; probably, from too much light occasioning an unhealthy excitement in the nervous system of so exquisitely delicate a creature. Few eggs, excepting those of rare or foreign birds, are worth the trial of hatching, if more than a month old. * * * Very hot weather destroys vitality in a few days. An egg having been frozen, is, of course, also worthless. This machine does not, as is frequently the case with eggs sat upon by the parent bird, ever saddle them. This evil is occasioned by the alternation of heat and cold, arising from the hen's unsteady sitting. The warmth imparted by the Eccalcobion is uniform and continued. A flush of fresh cool air passing over them each day, for a short time, is considered beneficial. * * *

"There is no difficulty in teaching the young of the various tribes of gallinaceous fowl to eat and to drink; they perform these operations spontaneously, or from observation, as appetite prompts them; nor is food necessary until the expiration of twelve or twenty hours after leaving the shell. * * *

"If chickens, about two months old, and upwards, are turned in among a brood of younger birds, they will sometimes take to brooding, and tending them with the delight of natural parents. The gratification being quite mutual, the young chicks run after, and strive with each other for their favours with the most untiring perseverance. Although, probably, it is simply the pleasurable sensation derived from the genial warmth communicated by the young birds nestling under them, which induces them to do it, it is, nevertheless, a striking and highly interesting picture to witness these mimic mothers acting the part of foster-parents

* The parent hen gives it in similar cases, and the chickens live.—Ed. L. G.

with so much apparent satisfaction, yet with the awkwardness with which a girl, in similar circumstances, fondles her doll. * * *

"The chicken, at the time it breaks the shell, is heavier than the whole egg was at first."

We will now, recommending the Eccalcobion to the attention of the public as a place of curious instruction, extract a few passages from the pamphlet, in which the writer notices preceding circumstances connected with his own performance. In Egypt, the art "is practised only by a few individuals: these inhabit a particular village, named Bermé, situated in the Delta of the Nile, about sixty miles from Grand Cairo, and by teaching the secret to their children, these Berméans perpetuate the practice of their art. It is, however, only during the serene autumnal months, that they will venture upon the performance of this curious business; at which time, scattering themselves over the whole land of Egypt, they bring into existence, under the supervision of the government, the enormous and almost incredible number of above ninety-two millions of various kinds of poultry. The ovens being limited to three hundred and eighty-six, and the business monopolised by the government, we may conclude this estimate a near approximation to the truth. * * *

"The members of the French Academy determined to make experiments in their own country of this Egyptian practice. These experiments were placed by the Academy under the direction of the celebrated M. De Reaumur; and, under the patronage of the royal family, most strenuous exertions were made to plant this novel mode of increasing illimitably the quantity of human food upon the soil of France. It was a subject calculated to excite popular enthusiasm; the nobility, clergy, and gentry, vied with each other in its encouragement, and titled dames and ladies, high in honour, proved at once their patriotism and their patience, by becoming the mothers of canaries and gold-fineshes, by hatching them in their bosoms."

Thoroughly French: and we believe these Ledas were very fond of their offspring as long as they could be fond of any thing—pity that the talking canary did not speak French! So of the noble and gentle patrons. After the first effervescence was over, they contented themselves and their *patrie* with the *dindons aux truffes*, and *poulets* and *potage à la reine*, which cocks and hens produced in the usual way. How could any thing Artificial flourish in France?

"It must (says Mr. Bucknell) have struck even the most superficial observer, that the extraordinary fecundity of gallinaceous fowls is a wise and most benevolent dispensation of Nature, to provide, the more abundantly, food for man; as, in those tribes of birds not suited for his table, the female lays no more eggs than she can incubate. With respect, therefore, to domestic poultry, the most nutritious of all human food, this rich provision of a bounteous Providence is for the first time available to Europe."

We imagine the writer to be in error as to the number of eggs birds of all kinds will lay. Take eggs from the nest of the sparrow, the plover, the crow, the hawk, &c., and they will

continue to lay others, the same as gallinaceous fowls.—*Boysish Experientia docet.*

Before we conclude, we must give the writer's commercial view of the subject:—

"We now (he says) come to the last consideration connected with this subject, which is—Are the profits likely to be realised, such as to warrant an endeavour to establish this artificial system of obtaining an additional quantity of human food? Mr. Mowbray, in his standard work already mentioned, gives the consumption of food by birds in the highest state of condition, as follows:—'By an experiment made in July 1806, a measured peck of good barley kept, in a high style of condition, the following stock, confined, and having no other provision: one cock, three hens, three March chickens, six April and six May ditto, during eight clear days, and one feed left.' Here, then, are nineteen birds, varying in age from two months to their full size, consuming one peck of corn in eight days, which, at one shilling per peck, gives a cost of one halfpenny and an eighth per head; which, however, is considerably above the cost of chickens for the first eight weeks of their existence. But, taking it at this high average, it gives an expense for each bird of nine-pence, all but a fraction, for fourteen weeks' keep, at which age they are in the greatest perfection, 'being the most delicate and easy to digest of all other animal food.' Where they can enjoy the advantage of a good run, the expense would still be lessened, perhaps one-third. Now, what is the price at a poulterer's, or in the London markets, of a fine fat chicken fourteen weeks old, or nearly its full size? Never less than two shillings, and for six months in the year, or during the dear season, four and five shillings; which, adding to nine-pence an additional three-pence for the value of the egg and extras, gives the enormous profit of from one hundred to five hundred per cent, divided between the breeder, the middle-man, and the retailer. It need not be wondered at that such is the case, nor can it be otherwise while the present system continues. A poulterer, whose sale is not more than ten dozen per week, must keep a man and a horse and cart, and attend the different markets for his purchases. All these things, with incidental expenses, will amount, at least, to two guineas per week, which two guineas must be spread over his ten dozen birds, before he derives any profit for himself. Upon any artificial system, these expenses would be saved, and the two guineas thus thrown away would keep a thousand birds, averaging all ages, a whole week."

With regard to the philosophizing in this pamphlet upon mind, instinct, &c. &c., we cannot affirm that it is all (for instance, that the *Eccaleobion* develops mind) unquestionable; but there are some points worthy of notice:—

"No one who witnesses the irruption of a large brood of chickens from their shells, by means of the *Eccaleobion*, but must feel convinced that they sensibly feel the peculiarity of their situation, and a few hours' additional strength renders this increasingly obvious. We can easily believe that a chicken hatched in the usual manner, understanding the cluck of its parent, and having the advantage of her nursing, so exactly suited by nature to its wants and condition, that they are no sooner produced than satisfied without effort or possibility of error, can scarcely express emotions of the mind. The case, however, is different when produced by the *Eccaleobion*; without any parent to soothe or administer to their wants, or to awaken or enter into the sympathies of their

nature, they betray surprise at their situation, and, like a child just awoke out of sleep, evidently wonder where they are, and how they came there. Before the chicken has liberated itself from its shell, it utters sounds in a tone and voice not to be misunderstood, challenging sympathy, and indicating disappointment at not being answered. When, during the night, a large number of birds have freed themselves from their calcareous shackles (of course in complete darkness), and the door of the machine is for the first time opened, and light bursts in, and the apparition of a human head appears before them, no infant ever displayed more astonishment in its countenance at strange sights, than is depicted in the eye and actions of these birds: some will approach, as if to welcome that unknown something they feel they want, while others retire, in fear, to the darkest corners of the machine. No parent answers to their joyous chirp, gives encouragement to their fears, or calls them to receive her protection; and the emotions they betray are precisely those we should expect in a rational being. As they are entirely removed from the circumstances Nature herself would have placed them in—instinct, as distinct from mind, could not produce these emotions, as instinct would be a power given to them suited, and sufficient only, to their natural condition; for, can we for a moment suppose, that instinct would cause them to express surprise and astonishment, when, if in their natural state, no occasion or use for such emotions could possibly exist? A few hours after, spontaneously, and without teaching, some of them, and these teach the more stupid, begin to eat. This attempt appears to arise, in the first instance, simply from animal impulse; but shortly, the faculties of mind are brought into play, among which that of observation is most prominent; noting each other's actions, they learn from one another, not only how to eat, and more especially how to drink, but soon discover the quality of different kinds of food; and, before two days of their existence have passed, can distinguish them by sight: so that if one among them has a favourite morsel in its bill, it is a great chance if he be allowed to enjoy it without some of his companions participating in the luxury. If instinct taught and impelled them to gratify their animal wants, would it, without the possession of mind, give to them, in an eminent degree, the faculty of observation, and a capacity to appreciate the benefits to be derived from following certain courses they have observed others take, while similar ones, from which no advantage is to be derived, remain unnoticed, or, if noticed, unfollowed? *

Whenever a granivorous bird, in a state of nature, is caught and killed, upon opening it, the crop and gizzard are found to contain a large quantity of these indigestible bodies; and, from their evident utility in the economy of the alimentary organs, man, without looking further into the matter, pronounces that instinct causes the bird to swallow them. Of about a thousand *Eccaleobion* birds that were reared in lofts and rooms, with bushels of fine gravel lying in heaps and scattered about, none would eat it, though several died in consequence of not doing so, by becoming crop-bound. If instinct is so effectual, why did not instinct teach these birds to swallow pebbles? but neither instinct, nor my own endeavours thereat, could induce them to do so. The reason is obvious. Like as children insensibly acquire, by receiving from their parents such food as they soon learn to relish, and by observation and habit

find agreeable to their palates and stomachs, so birds learn to choose and mix their peculiar food—but as, without parents to direct, few children would eat the most wholesome, preferring to live upon sweets and food injurious to them, so these birds, as mothers they had none, and instinct was at fault, could not be persuaded to eat stones, a want of sense certainly, which some had reason to repent; nevertheless, the remainder owed not their salvation to wisdom imparting instinct. All these birds were, with but few exceptions, in the best possible health and condition, completely fat, and had been so from their earliest days. They were of all ages, varying from five to ten weeks, and were all turned out into a large yard in the height of the fine weather of summer. This change, trivial as it may appear, was unfriendly to them, as many of them took cold, and some died. For food, they always had a full supply of the best corn, and occasionally a mess of scalded oatmeal; they, however, still for some time refused pebbles, but eat of every green thing they could obtain, as also insect and animal food; gradually, however, they learned the virtue there is in stones and other hard bodies, and swallowed them like others of their kind. Most of them were very fine and beautiful birds, and not the least extraordinary circumstances attending them are, that although the greater half were cocks, there was, with slight exceptions, neither fighting nor crowing among them, even when arrived at nearly their full size. It is usually asserted, that the high mettle and courage of the game-cock is natural to it, that is, instinctive, and that if two were to meet in a desert they would fight until one was killed. That they have in their natural state courage sufficient for the protection of themselves, from their numerous enemies, cannot be doubted, but all beyond is the effects of diet and education. The birds not crowing, also, I cannot account for, otherwise than from their not being within hearing of the thrilling clarian of older birds."

Some remarkable deductions may be drawn from these phenomena; but we have done enough to attract attention to them and their source. The *Punctum Salientis* of the ancient doctors may now be obviously examined; and we hope that men of ability and science will think it worth their while to pursue a sufficient set of careful experiments on an important and obscure branch of physical, and to a certain degree, of metaphysical inquiry, now so readily offered for the exercise of their skill, talents, and ingenuity.

Character and Costume in Turkey and Italy.

Designed and Drawn from Nature, by Thomas Allom, Esq. With descriptive Letter-press, by Emma Reeve. London, 1839. Fisher, Son, and Co.

THE literary portion of this handsome volume advances no high pretensions to originality. Subordinate to, and explanatory of, the graphic embellishments, it is necessarily unconnected in its parts. Nevertheless the descriptions are pleasingly written; and we subjoin a few extracts from them:—

"The medak, or story-teller, is a person of much importance to the amusement-seekers of Constantinople; and one eminent in his profession is certain of an attentive and liberal audience, whenever he is pleased to hold forth. A good *artiste* possesses, in a most astonishing manner, the power of exciting tears or laughter from the usually grave and apathetic Turks, who smoke their *chibouks*, and listen to the

progress of his tale with untiring interest. The customary scene of exhibition is at some one of the numerous caffinetts: a sort of elevated divan, near an open window, is prepared for the principal actor; while the auditors are accommodated around him, and served by an attendant with tea, coffee, sherbet, melons, ices, and the never-failing pipe. As soon as the performer commences, the utmost silence prevails; every eye is fixed upon the speaker: and certainly, if we may judge from the eagerness with which his words are received, the popular medak must be a man of no contemptible talent; his vivacity, his varied and animated gestures, his expressive action, his quick and flowing eloquence, are all surprising, when it is remembered that the recital of a fictitious narrative has thus hurried a Turk from 'his propriety.' And its effect upon the listener is not less so; every joke calls forth an answering burst of merriment, and the serious passages are met with corresponding emotions: the great heroes of our drama could neither wish nor obtain a better tribute of applause. No payment is demanded for admission to the caffinet; but in the convenient pauses of the story, an individual, appointed for the purpose, passes silently through the assembly to receive their contributions; each auditor drops a few paras into the box, the more speedily as he is anxious for the tale to proceed; and the Turkish improvisatore seldom has reason to be dissatisfied with his remuneration. During the festival of Ramazan, the most distinguished of these men are engaged at the principal coffee-houses, for a certain number of nights, at a stipulated sum, which does not, however, preclude their collecting from the audience. Sometimes the intervals of the narrative are occupied by music: two or three guitarists, with their instruments, are seated in the inner divan, and accompanying their own, or the voices of others, relieve the entertainment by their performances. Frequently the songs are very pleasing, and the diversification is agreeable.

"The odalique is a fair slave of Circassia or Georgia, the purchase and property of her master alone, and frequently the favourite of his heart—the 'light of his harem'; yet she is bound to yield implicit obedience to the commands of the principal wife, and to treat her with the utmost deference and respect; her subordinate situation is never forgotten; she is scarcely allowed to converse in the company of her mistress; and when their common lord honours the female apartment with his presence, while the chief lady takes her station at the extreme end of the sofa upon which he is seated, the odalique is contented to place herself at his feet in submissive silence. For this reason the Buyek Hanoum, or head of the harem, would rather welcome the introduction of many slaves, to share or engross the affections of her husband, than admit the intrusion of a second wife, her rival in authority, although still her inferior in rank. But the latter infringement upon the happiness of a Turkish wife seldom occurs in the middling classes of society: a Turk usually marries a woman of his own condition; the remainder of his household, should he desire to increase it, consists of slaves; and the careful distinction of rank, if it destroys the pleasures of social intercourse among its inmates, is productive of concord; it avoids the vain struggle for precedence, and prevents the worst torment of jealousy, that of mortified vanity. The odalique, however she may be the favourite of her master, is still a slave; and the wife, though her charms have lost their power, remains the

undisputed and legitimate queen of the harem; yet every lady has her private apartment, to which she may retire when she pleases, to enjoy in solitude a freedom from restraint. * *

"The causes which produce the mephitic vapour that hovers around Rome, threatening to infect the immediate suburbs, and even the city itself, has been the theme of much learned and fruitless discussion; yet the operation of natural causes alone could not have occasioned the alteration in a region formerly so well peopled and cultivated, had not the Lombards, Franks, and their barbarous compeers, first devastated the lovely land, and left it, waste and bare, to the attacks of an insidious enemy, which had hitherto lingered innoxious in its bosom: the houses, pavements, crops, plantations, and, above all, the drains, were destroyed at the fatal period of their invasions; agriculture was neglected, the earth was left untilled; no effort was made to counteract the impurity of the air, or the defects of a soil always favourable to the stagnation of water, till the evil attained a magnitude that now, perhaps, admits of no remedy. But the wilderness of the Campagna, still fair in its desolation, is not unapproachable during the winter and spring months. Pestilence is not always seated there, like Satan in the garden of Eden, 'devising death'; and at some seasons the traveller may pass with safety through a land that 'breathes of beauty.' There, amongst the ruins of ancient grandeur, the goatherds, in their rude and shaggy dress, may be seen guarding their flocks; but it is a sight that affords little pleasure, for the dejected and unhealthy countenances of these poor men too frequently tell the tale of their sufferings; and many of them, and of others, whose employments induce them to drag on a miserable existence in the fatal precincts, return, after some few years of painful martyrdom, to die, and only to die, in a purer atmosphere. Yet an Italian flock of goats is an object pleasing and picturesque; nothing can exceed the grace and agility of their bounding movements, or the bright glistening whiteness of their long hairy coats. They are faithful, tractable, and affectionate; the goatherd has no difficulty in the management of his charge; the oldest of the flock is usually a very efficient aide-de-camp; he leads his companions in the track of their master's footsteps, and it is singular to observe his perfect understanding of, and ready obedience to, the slightest signal of the goatherd, whom he never attempts to forsake: on the road he follows him, and, should he pause to rest or sleep, the docile animal will lie down by his side, and nestle in his master's bosom. * *

"The game of Mora—or, as it was generally termed, Miciare Digitis, or Miciare, from whence came Micatura, and, by corruption, Mourre (the French word for it) and Mora—is of great antiquity; its invention was ascribed to Helen, who, it is said, was accustomed to play with Paris, the son of Priam. The game may be played by two or four persons, as in billiards, and usually consists of six points; but this is arbitrary, and left to the arrangement of the players, who then present as many fingers as they choose, calling aloud some particular number; and if either of the numbers thus mentioned agree with the amount of fingers presented, he who named it counts one towards his game, by holding up a finger of the left hand, or, sometimes, a fist or elbow. But neither player is permitted to count, if, on the contrary, both numbers are incorrect. When a player exclaims *tutta* (all), he must display his open

hand, and the point is won, if his rival at the same time exhibit all his fingers. Mora Mutola, or Dumb Mora, is played in like manner, but with this exception, that instead of calling the numbers, the players, before they commence the game, agree by what mode they shall designate odd and even; after which, whoever utters a syllable incurs a forfeit. Should any difficulty arise during the progress of the game, no words are allowed, but the required explanation must be given and received by signs. The Spartan women were reputed very skilful at this game. Cicero had a saying concerning it, when remarking of a man whose honesty was unimpeachable, that grew into a proverb—*Dignus est quicum in tenebris Mices*.—'He is so honest, that you might play Mora with him in the dark;' as much as to say, He will honourably confess how many fingers he presented. * *

"Apart from the feeling of moral degradation which belongs to the idea of slavery, that unhappy state is more tolerable in Turkey than domestic servitude among many nations. The Turk treats his slave with invariable kindness, is gentle to his failings, attentive to his happiness; and there have not been wanting instances, when a reciprocal and faithful attachment has rendered the connexion almost like that of a father and his child; while, far from contemplating the expected change as a misfortune, unprovided youth of both sexes, from Georgia and Circassia, frequently entreat their parents to offer them for sale at Constantinople, as the best means of promoting their future advancement. The price of his labour is paid to the parent or friend who has the disposal of the slave; but he is well fed, and at certain periods, twice in the year, every member of the family in which he is domiciled presents him with a donation; this is called 'backshish,' and varies according to the pleasure of the bestower. Should slaves of either sex be dissatisfied with the conduct of their master or mistress, they are by no means under obligation to wear out a miserable existence in service that is repugnant to them; and upon signifying three several times their intention to change owners, the previous purchaser is compelled to submit. In many instances they have the power of choosing their own possessor, and can insist upon this privilege, although the original master is loser in consequence of a determination to serve some particular individual, who is perhaps unable or unwilling to pay an equivalent sum, or to outbid another of superior riches and liberality. * *

"Exclusive of the carnival and the principal festivals of the Romeli church, there is not a saint in its numerous catalogue who has not his appropriate day of celebration in Italy, when his votaries meet to do him honour by a strange mingling of pleasure with religious ceremony; and so like are they in character to each other, that the description of a 'Festa at Sorrento' would apply with almost equal fidelity to that of any other Italian district. Sorrento is considered by some the most delicious spot on the southern coast of Naples, its climate contracts no insalubrious quality from the heats of summer, and is mild and pleasant during the winter season: the scenery is more beautiful than grand, the town clean and well built; and its environs are filled with luxuriant and well-cultivated gardens, that would give to the country the appearance of a paradise, but for surrounding walls, which obscure them from the view of the passenger. Sorrento is held in esteem for its antiquity, and as the poet Tasso's birthplace. Various remains of ancient sculp-

ture have been discovered on several occasions, and are collected and preserved beneath an arch in the town, where they are exposed to the gaze of the curious. But this sweet spot of sunny Italy is rendered still more interesting from the fact that the traveller is not compelled to turn from the contemplation of nature's beauties with a sickening feeling of regret, in order to behold the misery of a large number of the human species in degrading contrast. The inhabitants of Sorento are remarkable for an amiable disposition, and for their honest and industrious habits: it is said that a stranger may pass through every part of it alone, and at midnight, in fearless security; the amusements of such people, though blended with ignorance and superstition, may escape the sneer of philosophy, for they confer enjoyment. At an early hour, on the day of the expected festa, the roads to the church whose saint is to be celebrated, are crowded with vehicles of every description; numbers of mules and asses; carts shaded with green boughs, drawn by oxen gaily adorned with garlands of wild flowers, laden chiefly with aged and infirm persons; while many of the younger and more active are seen thronging on foot, dancing their way for two or three miles perhaps, as if incapable of suffering fatigue. After the conclusion of divine service at the church, they congregate in some vineyard or other convenient place, and devote the remainder of the day to merriment. The Neapolitans are seldom quiet in their amusements; and—as decked with fillet, rosaries, and flowers, their temples encircled with vine-leaves, and their hands and faces stained with the ruddy juice, their wild shouts and clamorous songs mingle with the clatter of tambourines and the snapping of castanets, while with strange gesticulations they join in the mazes of the dance—a spectator might imagine that he was witnessing the vagaries of an assemblage of maniacs.

"The approach of an Italian vintage is always hailed as a season of universal festivity; and the country never presents an aspect of greater beauty than when the ripe grapes, decorating the numerous and fruitful vineyards, seem to invite the hand of the gatherer. At the appointed time the wealthy citizens repair to their country residences, the vintage begins, and all, without distinction of sex or age, are called upon to assist; even children are allowed to mingle in the mirthful employment, while the most perfect equality prevails among the labourers who have met together from the various classes of society. Every where is life and motion,—heavily laden wagons make their slow way through the usually quiet lanes and roads, reeling beneath the weight of their juicy burden; and, while the summer air is 'musical' with song, amusement is not allowed to interrupt the progress of labour. The time exclusively devoted to enjoyment does not arrive till the vintage is ended, when a liberal feast is spread for the gatherers in the spacious kitchen of the master's house. The arrangement of this supper resembles that of the ancient Saturnalia of the Romans—gradations of rank are disregarded, and masters for the occasion serve at the table of their domestics. After supper they return to the open air; the whole party mingle in the dancing that commences; and the most refined lady in the company would not, for that evening, refuse the honour of her hand to the meanest peasant who requested her for his partner. Yet, notwithstanding the latitude that is permitted, and the quantity of wine the

plebeian guests are encouraged to take, which produces an immoderate gaiety rather than intoxication, not an expression calculated to offend the most 'polite ears' is ever heard to escape from their lips, and the unrestrained moments of the revel are invariably guarded by the strictest propriety. On this gay night, that none should be without a share in the festivities, the peasants who have not been employed in the preceding work, assemble in the different public-houses in the village, where they order a supper, at which the new wine is not forgotten, and, following the example of the legitimate gatherers, spend the succeeding night in dancing and amusement beneath the open sky: not a sound save of mirth and laughter is heard in the noisy village, till the cool air of morning breathes upon the heated parties, and the sun rises over the scene of merriment—then, and not till then, the company separate for their different homes, and cease to celebrate the gathering-in of the vintage."

We shall advert to the pictorial part of the volume elsewhere.

The Duke. By Mrs. Grey. 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1839. Bentley.

A NOVEL of the higher circles of society, in which there are many scenes of considerable interest, and others displaying a conversancy with life and character. The hero, the Duke, is too distinctly drawn in his prominent features from an illustrious living personage, to allow of his fictitious ramifications, or the notice of his relatives, being either agreeable or proper; for the general reader cannot be aware where the line between truth and invention should be interposed. The original ground of the story is not very probable; and some of the incidents in working it out are not more likely. Still, as more strange things daily occur in actual existence, we may agree to receive these as it has pleased the authoress to give them to us. Taken separately, the death of the child Rose, the disappointment of Lord Fitz-Henry, the birth of the youngest Cecil, the death of the imbecile Lord Clairville, and several others, deserve much praise, either for their nature, humour, pathos, or force; though, as a whole, we do not feel much for the noble-minded and beautiful youths, nor the unparalleled and angelic damsels, with mouths of exquisite sweetness, lofty brows of marble polish, Hyperion curls or clustering ringlets, eyes of liquid loveliness or lightning, as the case may be, and form and expression, all of which belong to the school of romantic description. In conclusion, we shall only say that these three volumes are pleasant to read, and that the leading moral they would inculcate—a lesson to hard-heartedness—is tolerably well carried out; but, from all kinds of morality, Lady Florence's episode must be deducted. One of the few passages in which an attempt at the comic is made (the better parts of a touching order being too long for extract) will serve as an example of the writer's talents:—

"With the usual recklessness of consequences, where a woman was concerned, Lord Fitz-Henry was now bent on seeing and knowing more of our heroine. No sense of propriety interfered to withhold him, or the fear of giving pain and alarm to a virtuous girl. *Côte qui cote*, he must again behold her, and he trusted to his own perfections and adroitness to smooth all other difficulties. Although very young, Lord Fitz-Henry had already spent a life of pleasure and indulgence, and, at the age of twenty-four, was almost

satiated with unrestrained gratification. The sole and darling child of a young and dissipated mother, deprived of a father's whole-some restrictions from the nature of his profession and long military career, he had been his own master from his earliest boyhood;—the use he had made of the mastery was to make himself the slave of every dangerous and debasing passion. Until his mother's death, the tenour of his pursuits and occupations had been well concealed by her from the duke, his father: in this deceit she had been assisted by his tutor, who had found very soon that his greatest merit in the mother's eyes consisted in leaving the young man to perfect freedom, so that, until that moment, the duke had been the only one in a certain set, ignorant of the profligacy of his son. It was discovered too late. Even Fitz-Henry pleaded the utter impossibility of changing old habits, and the duke was forced to consign him to his fate, trusting that time might effect the reform which he found his best endeavours fail to achieve. Handsome, agreeable, rich, and powerful, the whole world appeared to be at his feet, so rarely had his desires ever been opposed. Inheriting much wealth from his mother, whose fortune had been the acting influence on the relations of the young Walter Fitz-Henry, when prevailing on him to make so early a marriage, he was perfectly independent of his father, and found that money was a powerful agent to his pleasures and vices. It is sad to think of the fearful ordeal which man in the season of youth is obliged to pass. Pleasure seems to put forth its blossoms on every side; passion urges him to pluck them while yet he may; and rushing forward with inconsiderate ardour, the enjoyments are secured, while too often every better principle is lost. Lord Fitz-Henry felt, for the first time, some misgivings as to the ultimate success which might crown his present pursuit. There was something even in the brief glimpse which he had caught of his thickly veiled divinity, that had stamped her as a being very different from the usual inhabitants of a suburb, who wear straw bonnets and dark shawls. Perhaps this feeling heightened the excitement of his fancy; and without excitement he could not exist. It had become as necessary to him as opium to the Turk, or tobacco to the American; and have it he must, in some form or other. After lounging about for some time, and yet seeing nothing but the same dingy-looking house, which was rendered still more dismal in appearance, from the upper windows being closely curtained, Fitz-Henry went to the extremity of peeping over the green canvass blinds into the parlour. His inspection offered very little to interest him, merely enabling him to see three young children sitting at the table in the centre of the apartment, busily conning their books. All this was very tiresome, and so potentially *ennuyeux*, that he was half-resolved to set off instantly for Norwood, and see what Jennie and her friend, the fair Aspasie, were about. But just as he was wearied to the utmost, at the dull aspect of affairs, it came into his head to go into a shop exactly opposite to the house. He thought that there, at least, he might gain some information with regard to its inhabitants. It was a kind of general grocer's; one who sells all sorts of commodities, and whose heterogeneous stock in trade consists usually of cheeses, bacon, eggs, letter-paper, and sealing-wax, tallow candles and mops, pattens and sugar-candy. In he went, hardly knowing what he was going to say or do, and found himself in the midst of various customers. One

buying an ounce of tea, a second two rushlights, and so forth. The smell which issued from this comprehensive magazine was not very agreeable to the fastidious nerves of the exquisite Fitz-Henry; however, he bore it with manly fortitude, and stood at the door with his arms folded, and his eyes fixed upon the opposite house, waiting until he could command the attention of the mistress of the shop. One by one the customers departed. Some elbowing our delicate lordling, as he stood taking up the entrance of the doorway; others courtesying respectfully, and eying him with looks of scrutiny and surprise. At length they were all gone, and the shop-keeper, a fat good-tempered looking woman, with the blindest tone of voice to which a chandler's shop ever resounded, ventured to ask, 'Can I serve you now, sir?' 'Oh! yes, certainly, by all means,' said Fitz-Henry, starting, and remembering, for the first time, that it was doubtless expected he should make some purchase. 'If you please, ma'am,' and his eye glanced inquiringly round the shop, 'if you please, I want some Spanish Liquorice and a mop.' 'How much, sir?' said the good woman, enchanted by his courteous bearing. And on his begging for half-a-crown's worth in his simplicity, he saw a piece, at least half a yard long, wrapped up in brown paper for his use. 'Any thing more, sir?' was then asked. 'Why yes, ma'am,' replied Fitz-Henry, beginning to be amused at his present predicament, and determined upon doing the thing handsomely. 'Suppose you put me up half-a-dozen of those mops.' 'Half-a-dozen, sir?' she said, looking incredulous. 'Yes, why not? And one of those magnificent-looking cheeses,' Fitz-Henry said, looking learnedly at the shelf on which they stood. Refusing with unfeigned horror to taste a bit of the 'prime Cheshire' which was handed over the counter to him in a dirty-looking iron implement, he said, taking some sovereigns from his purse, 'And now, ma'am, if you please I will pay you, and will send for these things by and by,' an expression very often used by his lordship for 'never.' He paid the money, however, to the delighted shopkeeper, who never in her life had served so good-looking and affable a customer; and he began in an opportune moment the interrogatories he wished to make. 'And now, my good lady, that I have transacted my little business, I just want to ask you a question or two. Can you tell me who lives in the house opposite? The one with the upper windows closed.' 'Yes, sir, I can certainly tell you all I know on the subject, and that's a very little.' 'But their names,' impatiently repeated Lord Fitz-Henry. 'Why sir,' she replied, looking mysterious, 'they go by the name of Norton. But my son, who is a bit of a scholar, says he is certain that they are incog—incogs—no, incognatures,—that's what he says they are. And I have my reasons for being sure that Norton is not their real and true name.' 'Do tell me all about it, my dear madam,' said Fitz-Henry anxiously. 'By the way, you may put me up two of those fine-looking hams,' he added, pointing to some huge dried legs of pork which graced the ceiling. He then paid some more money, and said—'Now tell me your reasons for thinking their name is not Norton.' 'I must tell you, sir, that Mrs. Jackson, what takes in washing, buys all her things at my shop, and sometimes I have a little chat with her when I am serving her. Says I, 'Mrs. Jackson, the new folks at No. 5 can't give you much trouble in getting up their clothes. I never saw much plainer dressing. 'I beg

your pardon, Mrs. Brown,' says she, 'I never set eyes on more beautiful linen.' 'Bless us,' says I, 'how odd!' Says she, 'If you will just step over to my house on Saturday, afore I sends home the clothes, I'll just shew you some of it. Such shimmies! all trimmed with wolleseens, and the finest Irish! Then the pocket handkerchers! all cambric, and some with needle-work, so pretty and ladylike; and indeed every thing to match. But what strikes me odd,' says she to me, 'is that all the harticles is marked with C, and not one with N.' Now, sir,' continued Mrs. Brown, 'I always goes a great deal by the under clothes, and that is a proof positor to me that they are something higher than they seems. You often see your flourishing would-be grandees, with a gown and bonnet on fit for a queen; and then if you could only catch a look at the shimmy, you would be surprised.' Lord Fitz-Henry coughed away a laugh, not to offend the narrator; and to end the dissertation asked if she had ever seen any of the family. 'See them! why bless you, Miss Norton, as they calls her, comes here very often to pay the bill, sweet pretty creature! Would you believe it, sir?' continued Mrs. Brown, 'my son Jeemes has quite lost his heart to her. 'Jeemes,' says I, when he is going on about her, 'what a fool you are!' 'Mother,' says he, 'a cat may look at a king! And then he runs on about her being like an angel. And the other day, when she took off her glove to take some money out of her purse, he really looked as if he could have eaten her little lily-white hand.' 'The audacious monster!' muttered Fitz-Henry between his teeth; and then inquired, in a tone of affected carelessness, if there was no gentleman belonging to the family. 'Lord bless you! yes, sir; there's the brother, a fine-looking young gentleman, but very proudlike, not condescending like Miss Norton; but they are both good young people, to think of all they have gone through with that sick mother! The poor soul was brought to bed last night, and then the trouble they had with the dear baby that died. They are for all the world, young as they are, like father and mother to the little children.' 'Have they a father?' inquired Fitz-Henry. 'That's what I can't exactly make out,' replied the verbose grocer. 'I have tried to get something out of the nurse, but I might as well look for blood in a stone. Howsodever, I went over this morning to ask if I could be of use, now the poor lady is put to bed, and I see Miss Norton herself.' 'How does she look without her bonnet?' was the next question put. 'I warrant you she looks like an angel, nothing else in life. Though I must say, sir, that her hair is done funnily; not a curl, or a bow, or a plait, as I have seen on the beautiful ladies' heads in the hair-dressers' shops. Still she looked sweetly pretty, though it was done so meanlike.' 'You are really a charming woman, Mrs. Brown,' said Fitz-Henry, fancying that he detected beauties through Mrs. Brown's graphic description. 'Lor, sir! you are very good,' she said, courtesying and smirking; 'and if you say so of me, who have had a family of nine, and brought up seven, what would you say of Miss Norton? You should have heard her thanking me, and saying she would take my kind offer, if so be that they wanted hands. It was so prettily said, and so like a real lady. I warrant me there is more there than meets the eye.' It appeared as if Mrs. Brown's words were prophetic; for at this moment Lord Fitz-Henry, whose eyes were constantly fixed upon

Evelyn's house, turned very red and then quite pale; while a low-murmured oath, which being in Spanish did not scandalise Mrs. Brown, betrayed considerable inward emotion. An apparition had met his eyes which had a most stunning effect upon his senses. It was nothing less than the form of his own father, walking quietly up to the very door that he had so watched! He rang gently, and in an instant the door was opened by the fair creature for whose sake the gallant Fitz-Henry was now suffocating in the grocer's shop! She at first started in surprise; but the next moment, as if in a transport of joy and pleasure, she placed both her hands in the extended one of the Duke of Strathaven. Fitz-Henry saw him enter, and the door was shut. It was then that the disappointed innamorato, stunned, bewildered, and annoyed beyond the power of description, rushed out of the shop; and hastily seeking his horse, which he had left at a neighbouring livery-stable, he mounted it, and galloped furiously away."

A Summer's Day at Hampton Court; being a Guide to the Palace and Gardens: with an Illustrative Catalogue of the Pictures according to the new Arrangement, including those in the Apartments recently opened to the Public. By Edward Jesse, Esq., Surveyor of Her Majesty's Parks and Palaces, author of "Gleanings in Natural History." 12mo. pp. 135. London, 1839. Murray.

A SUMMER'S DAY, and a more pleasant way to spend it, the great metropolis of England does not afford, than that to which we are so agreeably guided by this small, but neatly embellished, useful, and instructive companion. It opens with an account of Cardinal Wolsey, the builder of Hampton Court Palace, full of interesting historical and antiquarian matter. The remaining portions of his magnificent abode are then described in the anecdotal and entertaining manner which characterises Mr. Jesse's pen. Thus, after giving us the number of his retinue and attendants, and the details of their daily services, Mr. Jesse says:—

"From the above list, which it is hoped will not be found uninteresting, the visitor will be able to form an idea of the use made of Wolsey's hall, and of the persons who filled it. On entering it, it is impossible not to be struck with its fine proportions, and the beauty of the roof, the workmanship of which is most elaborate, consisting of carvings in wood. The hall of Christchurch, Oxford, built also by Wolsey, is said to be more chaste and impressive, although many persons give the preference to that of Hampton Court. This hall is one hundred and six feet in length, and forty in breadth; and the east and west ends have each a gable window, more remarkable for purity of taste than for richness. The sides are lighted by seven lofty, well-proportioned windows, placed at a considerable height from the floor, as was usual formerly in all great halls, in order that the walls might be hung with tapestry on festive occasions. There is a dais, or platform, at the upper end of the hall, and one side of it is a window, the ceiling of which is one of the most beautiful of the kind in this country, and perhaps unique with respect to the taste and richness of its workmanship. It was upon one of the panes of glass of this window that Henry Howard, earl of Surrey, so famous for the tenderness and elegance of his poetry, and for his martial exploits, wrote some lines with a diamond on the fair Geraldine,* which

* "The fair Geraldine, it is now known, was Elizabeth,

excited the jealousy of Henry VIII., and perhaps assisted in bringing the high-souled and hot-tempered Surrey to the block in 1547. It is a curious fact, if it can be depended on, that the first play acted in the hall was that of 'Henry VIII., or the fall of Wolsey,' it being represented on the very spot which had been the scene of the cardinal's greatest splendour. Shakspeare is said to have been one of the actors in this play."

Another passage, relating to the surveillance of Charles I. at Hampton Court, affords a fair example of our author:—

"It may not be uninteresting in this place to relate an anecdote connected with the residence of Charles I. at Hampton Court, especially as it has become a sort of tradition still occasionally mentioned in the neighbourhood. It is said that the king was one day standing at one of the windows of the palace, surrounded by his children, when a gipsy or beggar-woman came up to it, and asked for charity. Her appearance excited ridicule, and probably threats, which so enraged the gipsy that she took out of her basket a looking-glass, and presented it to the king: he saw in it his own head decolled. Probably with a natural wish to conciliate so prophetic a beggar, or for some other reason, money was given to her. She then said that the death of a dog in the room the king was then in would precede the restoration of the kingdom to his family, which the king was then about to lose. It is supposed that Oliver Cromwell afterwards slept in the room referred to. He was constantly attended by a faithful dog, who guarded his bedroom door. On awakening one morning he found the dog dead, on which he exclaimed, in allusion to the gipsy's prophesy which he had previously heard, 'The kingdom is departed from me.' Cromwell died soon after, and the subsequent events are sufficiently known. The rooms in which Charles I. was confined, and the little chapel adjoining them, are perhaps more interesting on that account than any thing in the palace. The chapel, in particular, in which Charles offered up his prayers to that Being who supported him through so many troubles, and enabled him to meet death with firmness and resignation, is curious from its architecture, and full of interest from the circumstances connected with it. The ceiling is beautifully worked, and the walls are nearly covered with paintings in fresco taken from Scripture subjects. There is a little oratory in the corner of the chapel, in which we may suppose the king's devotions were offered up. It is now too probably the receptacle of pickles and preserves. One must regret that this chapel cannot be seen either by the historian or the antiquary, or indeed by the public generally, which certainly ought to be the case. I also regret that I have not been enabled to give an engraving of it for this work. After the death of Charles I., Hampton Court became the occasional residence of Oliver Cromwell, who used frequently to hunt in the neighbourhood, and a part of Bushy Park was formed by him into a preserve for hares. His third daughter, the Lady Mary Cromwell, was married at Hampton Court to Lord Falconbridge in 1657, and his favourite daughter, Mrs. Claypole, died there. In her delirium she is said to have taxed her father with his crimes, and that this hastened his death. It was at this place he was attacked with his last illness."

second daughter of Gerald Fitzgerald, earl of Kildare, by Margaret, daughter of Thomas Grey, marquess of Dorset, and the third wife of Edward Clinton, earl of Lincoln."

But the most novel portion of the volume, and that which will place it in the hands of every visitor, is a *catalogue raisonnée* of the splendid gallery of pictures, now exhibited in the fine suite of rooms which run round the edifice. These are now thrown open to the public, without let, hindrance, or charge; and have, by the addition of several hundred pictures, hitherto unseen in the royal repositories, become infinitely more important to art and interesting to the curious. They have been especially enriched in early portraiture, so as to form, indeed, a school of the Art; and being arranged with far better taste, and a due regard to the time to which they belong, they will also be found to be admirable illustrations of our history, and of the eminent persons who acted prominent parts in its national movements.

We merely add a page to shew in what manner this task has been executed:—

"*The Queen's Gallery.*—This gallery is eighty feet long and twenty-five feet wide, and was sometimes called the Tapestry Gallery, from seven pieces of tapestry, taken from the history of Alexander the Great from paintings by Le Brun. These tapestries were much faded, and lost much of their interest. They have now given place to the present interesting and well-arranged collection of pictures. Portraits of William III. and Queen Mary over the doors—William Wissing. Died, 1687. He was principal painter to James II., and sent by him to the Hague to paint William and Mary, by which performances he gained great reputation. Henry VIII. and his family—Hans Holbein. Born in 1498; died, 1554. This great painter was admired by all Europe for his forcible colouring and his exquisite finishing. His paintings in this gallery are perhaps unequalled for their historical interest and their fine execution. The Elizabethan group immediately under the picture just mentioned, cannot fail of interesting the spectator. We have, first, a portrait of Queen Elizabeth when a child—Holbein. Queen Elizabeth when about twelve years of age—Holbein. This is a most interesting picture, and perhaps one of the most curious in the collection. The young princess has an agreeable, childish expression of countenance, and at the same time much sense. The mouth is pretty, and the hair reddish. Over a white petticoat, richly embroidered with gold, she has a crimson dress, adorned at the waist and neck with jewels and pearls, and a cap of the same colour. In her long, thin hands, she holds a prayer-book. The picture is most elaborately finished throughout. Queen Elizabeth, an allegorical picture—Lucas de Heere. Queen Elizabeth—Zucchero. Queen Elizabeth—Marc Guérardo or Garrard. Died in 1635. His portraits are generally neat, the ruffs and habits stiff, and rich with pearls and jewels. This is said to be the last portrait painted of the Queen. The pictures which surround this Elizabethan group, are portraits of some of the great and wise men of her court, such as Nottingham, Walsingham, Bacon, &c. They are copies. King and Queen of Bohemia dining in Public—Van Bassan. Charles I. and his Queen dining in Public—Van Bassan. This and its companion are curious historical pictures. Lady Vaux—Holbein. Probably the wife of Nicholas, lord Vaux, a great ornament to the courts of Henry VII. and VIII. Portrait—Gonzales. Queen Mary when a Child—Holbein. Portrait—Ant. More. Portrait of a Young Man—Albert Durer. Born, 1471; died, 1526. This memorable artist was a universal genius. His imagination was lively, his compositions grand, and the finishing of his pictures

remarkably neat. The one before us is admirably and carefully painted. The date 1506 is upon it, and the initials. Sir Theodore Mayerne—Rubens.* The two large pictures above the smaller ones represent the embarkation of Henry VIII. at Dover, and the meeting of that king and Francis I. of France in the field called the Cloth of Gold, near Calais. These pictures are not only historically very interesting, but a curious fact is connected with one of them. After the death of Charles I., the Commonwealth were in treaty with a French agent, who had expressed his desire of purchasing these pictures for the king of France. Philip, earl of Pembroke, who was a great admirer, and an excellent judge, of painting, and considered these valuable pictures an honour to an English palace, came privately into the royal apartments, cut out that part of the picture where King Henry's head was painted, and, putting it into his pocket-book, retired unnoticed. The French agent, finding the picture mutilated, declined purchasing it. After the Restoration, the then Earl of Pembroke delivered the mutilated piece to Charles II., who ordered it to be replaced. On looking at the picture in a side light, the insertion of the head is very visible. It may fairly be doubted whether Holbein painted these pictures. They are too coarse; besides, he did not arrive in England till six years after the interview depicted, and therefore could not have taken the many excellent English portraits which are introduced into the pictures at that time. It is, however, immaterial, as their intrinsic merit and historical interest will always demand attention."

Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopædia. Vols. 113, 115, 116. London, 1839. Longman and Co.

VARIOUS circumstances have combined to postpone our reviews of these volumes, beyond the period that our attention should have been devoted to them. The first, a continuation of Sir James Mackintosh's "History of England," is from the pen of Mr. Wallace, whose sudden and premature death it was, perhaps, which averted our minds from the consideration of the work. It was our wish to have published a memoir of the author, whom we have long known and esteemed, throughout a life sedulously devoted to literary pursuits; but being unable to procure such a memorial of him, we could not bring ourselves to a critical examination of his last production. Wallace was a native of Ireland, and a man of sterling abilities. He was long connected with the periodical press, and particularly with the "Morning Herald" newspaper. As a critic, generally, he possessed a sound judgment, and a fund of needful information; but on dramatic writings and performances, he was pre-eminently gifted with talents to enable him to sit as censor. He had been to Covent Garden on a Thursday evening, to witness one of the masterly efforts of Macready, whose art he greatly admired, and to whom he was individually much attached; and on the Saturday he was a corpse.

The next volume on our list is the sequel to Mr. Forster's "Life of Cromwell," in the series of "Lives of Eminent Statesmen." Here, as in the former portion, Mr. Forster has diligently sought out for new matter to illustrate the biography of one of the most extraordinary men that ever acted a striking part in the history of

* "Mayerne was a native of Geneva, and was physician to four kings; namely, Henry IV. of France, James I. of England, and the two Charleses. He had a great reputation."

England; and has succeeded so well as to bestow much original interest upon his work.

The last is a volume of Mr. Swainson's "Natural History," and appropriated to fishes, amphibians, and reptiles. It is, as might be anticipated from the writer, a very able performance, though somewhat fine and metaphysical. The technicalities are severe, and we confess that, even with our dictionary, we could not always get on to the right understanding of the text. For popular reading, six dictionaries would not suffice. The circular arrangement, of course, is a prominent feature. For example, speaking of amphibia:—

"Passing over the various artificial arrangements of this class, as unimportant to the paramount object of our volume, we rejoice in being able to avail ourselves, in this part of our undertaking, of the labours of one of the most eminent erpetologists in Europe; who, thoroughly impressed with the truth of that circular arrangement, which, if it pervades one class of animals, must necessarily pervade all, has distributed the *Amphibia* in accordance with such a series; and we deem his labours so successful, that we shall not venture to hazard the least alteration of our own. In a valuable work, not particularly devoted to zoology,* Professor Bell has arranged all the amphibians yet known under the following orders:—1. *Amphipneusta* contains the sirens and proteans; 2. *Anoura* comprehends the frogs and toads; 3. *Urodela* includes the salamanders; 4. *Abranchia* has the genera *Menopoma* and *Amphiuma*; while 5. contains the singular genus *Cocilia*. It is easy to perceive that this last passes into the first by means of the dipod sirens, and thus the whole form a circular group more or less perfect in its connecting links."

Another passage deserves quotation, as a fair specimen of the author:—

"We shall now conclude this rapid survey of the amphibians by some remarks upon the sirens. It has been said that these animals, uniting in themselves so many opposite affinities, 'are of the number of those beings which seem peculiarly formed to set classification at defiance, and which are distinguished in the animal kingdom for the anomalies of their organisation.' This sentence, however, betrays but a very partial acquaintance with the subject. In the first place, we deny that there are any anomalies in nature, although there appear to be many when we attempt to work out her natural groups. Anomalies imply contradictions to established laws; let us ask, therefore, upon what grounds we can term the structure of any being anomalous, before we are acquainted with those laws which it contradicts? If we invent systems of supposed affinities, without any regard to those beautiful harmonies of representation which nature almost forces upon our notice, not only the siren, but innumerable other animals, will appear altogether anomalous. The contradictions, however, which they present must be laid at the right door; that is, to the errors of our own systems, and not to the departure of nature from those laws of which we have but an imperfect knowledge. But let us look to the sirens, or, indeed, to the whole of the amphibious class, in another point of view. All writers agree that they exhibit as many affinities to fish as they do to true reptiles; nay, no less a name than that of Camper can be cited for considering the siren as a true fish, belonging to the apodal order of

Linnaeus! If then—as nature every where proceeds by 'measured steps and slow' in leaving one group and entering upon another—if then, she has given to a group of animals a peculiar organisation intermediate between reptiles and fish, it becomes absolutely necessary that such animals should exhibit differences from both the classes they are intended to connect; that they should be, in fact, the graduating links—the narrow but well-proportioned passage—which is to lead us from one vestibule of nature's temple to another; and so, accordingly, do we find them. So far, then, is the siren from being peculiarly formed, so to speak, for setting natural classification at defiance, that it offers one of the most beautiful and most essential links in the chain of nature. The anomaly would be, if such animals had never been created. Without them there would be a gap, 'which nature's self would rue,' as destroying, in the most perfectly organised kingdom of the animal world, that particular race of beings which demonstrates the union of the whole of the vertebrated animals into one vast circle."

Whatever are its difficulties and imperfections, it must be owned that this is a valuable work for the science of which it treats; and having allowed it thus its just merit, we shall leave it with a smile at two of its statements. Speaking of the true *Chatodonidae*, Mr. Swainson gravely tells us, that it has "a small head and a much smaller mouth," and we should have wondered if it had been larger: and the following will speak for its own amusing conclusion:—

"Analogies of the *Zeidae* and the *Scomberidae*."

| Sub-families of the Scomberidae. | Analogies. | Sub-families of the Zeidae. |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Scomberinae. | Dorsal fins distinct. | Centronotinae. |
| Thynninae. | Dorsal fins united. | Zeinae. |
| Alepisaurinae. | Body long, sub-angular, cylindrical: mouth and teeth large; lower jaw long and pointed. | Sphyreninae. |
| Fistularinae. | Back armed with many naked spines before the dorsal fin; snout sometimes lengthened. | Gasterostinae. |
| Xiphinae. | Lower jaw short, the upper prolonged and pointed. | Notocanthinae. |

These analogies are so conclusive, that we apprehend they need no amplification."

IRELAND.

[Third notice: continued from page 553.]

THE mellow style of Mr. Otway throughout his *Tour in Connaught* is delightful. Description, legend, adventure, succeed and relieve each other. The tone of the brogue is in our ears, the smell of the peat in our nostrils, and the humour of Pat is before our eyes, as we accompany our agreeable tourist

"westward, where Dick Martin ruled
The houseless wilds of Connamara."

Without further observations, we will commence with a picture of Irish life at Kinnegad; which town, Mr. Otway informs us, "is, like most towns in East and West Meath, 'a lean place amidst fat lands.' What a sleepy spot! few up and doing, but the cur dogs and beggars. The bugle of the passing coach sends its clangor along the quiet street, it reverberates amongst the mud walls and dunghills—the lazy cobbler lifts his head from his last, and scratches, significantly, beneath his woollen nightcap—the tailor lays down his goose, scratches also, ruminatingly, at the organ of destructiveness, and stares at the passing vehicle—the tinker's ass strays responsively as the guard blows—the sow rises from her wallowing in the green puddle that bubbles and festers before the huxter's

door, to grunt in unison—mendicants and cur dogs rush forth and surround us, the one barking, the other begging. Oh, why have we not the pencil of a Wilkie or an Ostade, a Callot or a Della Bella, to picture the grouping of a coach changing horses at an Irish village! Here I challenge all the mendicant countries in Christendom to match me Ireland in the trade, or costume, or aptitude for begging—France, Italy, ay, even Spain itself, must yield the palm. Where, under the sun, could you find such eloquence of complaint—such versatility of supplication—such aptitude of humour—suing, with felicitous tact, the appeal to the well-guessed character of the applicant? Observe, there is always a leader of the begging band, who controls the rest, and asserts a manifest superiority in striking the key-note of supplication. Take, for instance, the queen-bee, or rather wasp, of the Kinnegad swarm that surrounded us: what a tall, sturdy, sinewy virago! her dark, unquiet eye, bespeaking her quick spirit—her powerful form, the danger of disputing with her—her sallow skin and sharp features, that the pabulum of her existence was drawn more from whisky than from wholesome eatables: alas, for the body, soul, and spirit of that being whose existence depends on whisky and potatoes! Look at her, with her filthy, faltering hand fixed now on the coach-door, in the attitude of threatening requisition, and almost intentionally frightening a delicate female within into the reluctant bestowment of sixpence. Again, see with what a leer of cunning she addresses herself, in flattering guise, to an outside passenger; and how knowingly she smokes a youth with a cigar in his mouth; and while coaxing him out of a penny, which he flung at her head, she played upon the puffer, offered to lend him her dudden, quizzed him for his parsimony, in attempting to smoke and chew at the same time from the same tobacco twist, and exhibited him off in the truth of his nature—as a jackanapes. Then she moved off to the rear of the coach, and commenced flattering a farming sort of a young man, large, rude, and ruddy. 'Och! then is that yourself, Master Tom? I hope your honour's heifers sold well last market—maybe it's yourself that hasn't the pocketful o' money coming out of Smithfield: and long may your father and your mother's son reign, for it's he that's the good warrant to give to the poor—my blessing, and the blessing of poor Judy's children, light upon him every day he gets up, for it's he that never passes through Kinnegad without throwing me a silver shilling. Do, Master Tom—and the heavens be your bed—throw us a half-a-crown now, and we'll divide decently. Yes, your honour, I know you'll be after putting your hand in your pocket. Molly, agn, turning to another beggar-woman, 'what a sweet smile Master Tom carries! Isn't he as like the dear man his father, as if he was spit out of his mouth?—But why shouldn't he be good, seeing as how he's the rale ould sort—none of your upstart Jackeens?' Here a sixpence, thrown at her head, rewarded her pains, and immediately she turned to a respectable-looking man, with broad-brimmed hat and sad-coloured attire, who stood on the other side of the vehicle preparing to mount. 'Do, your reverence, throw us a taster before you go, and soon and safe may you return, for the prayer of the fatherless and widow will be along wid yeas—blessing on his sweet, charitable face! Wouldn't ye see, Honor,' addressing herself to another beggar-woman, with the wink of an eye, 'that there was a heart within him for the poor?' Here Honor interposed: 'Judy Mulcabeey, and bad

* The Encyclopedia of Anatomy and Physiology, part i. p. 91."

luck to ye, why call the gentleman 'his riverence,' when you know no more than my sucking child whether he be a *dargy* at all, at all? 'Yes, but I do know; and for why shouldn't I? Don't I see his galligaskins covering so tight and *nate* his comfortable legs?—blessings on his riverence every day he rises! And then, in an under voice, and turning to a beggar-man behind her, 'Jack, what matters it to the likes of us, whether he be the right sort or no—what *consarn* is it to Judy and the child, whether he be priest, parson, or methody preacher, so as I slewed him out of sixpence? Do, your riverence, do—the poor widow's blessing attend ye—throw something before yees go amongst us.' Thus she carried on her attacks, praised and joked, prayed and imprecated, now a blessing, now a blasphemy; and when the guard sang out 'All's right,' and the coach drove off, she heaped curses, for sheer fun sake, upon all those whom, for herself and fellows, she failed to put under contribution—and then for the whisky-shop, to dissolve, with all rapidity, the proceeds of her morning's occupation. But, 'adieu to the village delights.'

This faithful and vivid sketch is curious for future reference as one, taken immediately previous to the introduction of the poor-laws.

Arrived at Kilbeggan, Mr. Otway observes:—

"The inn of the town I must remember as long as I live; its titled landlady I well recollect—the Lady Cuffe: never did the fountain of honour play off such a ludicrous prank, as when it showered its spray on the head of an innkeeper; yet so it was, when about seventy years ago the Viceroy of Ireland dubbed mine host of Kilbeggan a knight. Lord Townshend, the then lord lieutenant, a man addicted to the most dissolute habits; and who, by the satirical writers of that day, was represented as one perfectly regardless of pomp, dignity, or parade—one who, as he walked the streets, used to scatter his ribald jests among the common passengers—whose festivities were often degraded down to disorder, and his recreations to indelicacy,—he, on occasion of a journey to Connaught, was, by some accident that occurred to his equipment, obliged to stop at Kilbeggan for the night, and partake of such accommodation as Mr. Cuffe, the innkeeper, could afford. In those days good claret was not an unusual thing to be had, even in small country inns; and so it happened that Mr. Cuffe was able to send up some fowl and fish, well cooked and well served, and that the claret was in its *bouquet* and flavour, adapted to his excellency's taste. Accordingly the great man unbent himself amongst his boon companions, and so, while losing sobriety, he forgot decorum; and as he, on another occasion, introduced his fox-hounds into the council-chamber, now, as a hair-brained Bacchanalian, he ordered the host to make his appearance, and when he came into the *presence*, the viceroy, in an affectedly grave speech, returned him thanks for his excellent cheer, and announced that he would not repay the obligation in any other manner but in conferring on him the honour of knighthood: and, accordingly, in spite of some of the more sober of the party, who remonstrated against this act of whimsical licentiousness, he actually forced mine host to kneel down, and duly dubbing him in set phrase and form, said, 'Rise up, thou mirror of innkeepers, and be from henceforth Sir Thomas Cuffe.' The astonishment of the innkeeper may be well supposed, as he returned to his wife to inform her of her new honours. The vice-regal visitor, as usual, retired to rest, utterly reck-

less of what he had done, and rose in the morning, altogether forgetful, until reminded of the transaction; at which, when informed, he was not a little annoyed, but plucking up courage, he said to his aid-de-camp: 'It certainly was carrying the joke too far, but curse the fellow, sure he will not take any advantage of it? Call him before me, and I'll persuade him to hush up the matter.' Accordingly, the man was introduced. 'Mr. Cuffe,' says his excellency, 'a circumstance occurred last night which I am sure you understood in the proper light: it was, it is true, carrying the joke too far; I hope, sir, you feel as becomes you, and that you will say no more about it, nor let the thing get wind.' 'Oh! indeed, my lord, the honour you have conferred on me, though I am right sensible of its importance, is still what I, for one, would have no objection to forego, under a proper consideration; but, please your excellency, what will my Lady Cuffe say?' The innkeeper and his wife were Sir and my Lady all their lives. The man died long before I ever passed through Kilbeggan, but I perfectly remember my Lady Cuffe. The remembrance of an ennobled hotel-keeper, however, is not what has fastened the inn so much on my memory, as a still more personal occurrence; for, he it known—and the part most concerned tingles while I tell it—I got the greatest kicking ever man got in Lady Cuffe's yard. The lamentable event was on this wise:—I, in the summer of 1799, the year after the rebellion, was travelling from the county of Westmeath to that of Tipperary, and on my way rode into my Lady Cuffe's inn at Kilbeggan; there I saw, sauntering about the house, and smoking as they reclined here and there, a set of outlandish-looking soldiers, gigantic fellows, with terrible *moustaches* and other accoutrements, denoting them to be foreigners. I was a young, spare, lathy lad at that time, much under twenty, and, like a gaping green-horn, I must needs proceed to the stables to inspect the horses and appointments of these much-dreaded men, who I was told were Hessians. Suppose me then standing in the stables, '*sicut mos est Milesianorum*,' as is the custom of Irishmen, with my mouth open, admiring all the stirrups, saddles, and bridles, &c. &c., of the Germans; moreover, be it recollected, that it was a token of loyalty in those days to carry a queue, or tail pendant from the back of your neck, and that those who neglected or lost such an accompaniment were counted disaffected,—they were Croppies. Poor innocent Croppy then as I was, there I stood unconscious of coming evil, when I all at once found myself seized as from behind, by the grasp, as it were, of a giant, my arms pinioned with one hand, the poll of my neck searched for the deficient tail with the other, and my seat of honour assailed with an immense jack-boot, whose toe did horrible execution, such as a battering-ram would inflict on a very weak postern, and then a terrible cry was shouted close to my ears, 'You be one Croppie rascal, vat te devil bring te yong rebill here? Take dat—and dat—and dat.' So he kicked me in the stable, and he kicked me in the street, and he kicked me up the front steps of the inn, and there the cruel monster, who was at least six feet four inches in height, then left me, as a hound would let drop a hare out of his mouth, pounded in body, and wounded in mind. Oh! the toe of that horrible jack-boot, never can I forget the infliction—what was I to do? take vengeance of course. Vengeance on whom? a common soldier—have the fellow punished—stay in the town until you lodge the com-

plaint before his officer—have him tried, flogged, and what not—oh! but that would have taken time—I should stop with my Lady Cuffe; that would take money, with which I was not over-burdened, so I thought it better to take patience, call for a chaise, and, putting plenty of straw under me, for air-cushions were not then invented, proceed in a very delicate state to the end of my journey; my only consolation being, that though a kicked man, the disgrace and pain were not inflicted by a countryman,—by a *rale* O, or a true Mac, but by a brutal Hessian.'

Mr. Otway goes on to Athlone, that town in the history of William's Irish wars, so famous for

"roaring cannon,
Where men, like otters, crossed the Shannon;"

from whence he visited Clonmacnoise, a very remarkable place, from its "seven churches, round towers, and other tokens of cenobitish holiness;" and at present, according to Mr. Otway's account, a hotbed of Irish superstition.

We find that the limits which restrict us prevent our entering Connaught, with the prospect of being able to do Mr. Otway's most agreeable excursion through that province any thing like justice, in the way of illustrative extracts; and we must therefore content ourselves with his graphic account of the memorable battle of Aughrim, which presents itself to us at the threshold of his tour:—

"About three miles south-west of Ballinascloe rise the high grounds, of which the hill of Aughrim stands most prominent. It may be supposed that I would not pass near the memorable battle-field without walking over it, which I accordingly did. Even were it not the scene of one of the most important events in European history, it is a beautiful eminence to look from—a fine farm of grass land, and near it is rather a pretty village. The hill which St. Ruth, the general commanding the united French and Irish forces, chose as the ground where he would make the last great struggle for the house of Stuart, is called Kilcomedan. The Frenchman, surprised as he was at Athlone, and brought to shame and confusion in the midst of his boasting, determined to shew here that he knew how to choose a good defensive battle-field; and certainly (speaking, as I confess I do, as a mere civilian) I may say, that not in Ireland could a better position be selected. I have been at Waterloo, at Culloden, at Oldbridge,—those great fields where the fate of religions, empires, and dynasties, were decided, and none of them can at all be compared to Kilcomedan. The hill rises, a fine green eminence, to the height of about four hundred feet. The ascent is so gradual, that both cavalry and artillery can easily manœuvre. Along the north-eastern side, upon which the Irish army was drawn up, there were parallel rows of lofty whitethorn hedges, which partly remain to this very day. On either flank were red bogs; in front, a morass, only passable, and that with great difficulty, in two places. The only approach for cavalry or artillery was by a narrow causeway that passed under the castle of Aughrim, a stronghold of the O'Kellys, and along which but two or three could ride abreast. It was no wonder, then, that St. Ruth, with his usual complacency, felt satisfied that his position could not be forced: it was no wonder that De Ginkle, the British commander, summoned a council of war to discuss whether it were possible to beat the enemy from this position. The fog that covered the whole country during the early part of the day, and the irresolution of the British officers, did not

allow the attack, which was now resolved on, to begin till about two o'clock; and St. Ruth, observing that the assault *was to be made*, addressed a speech to his army, in which he took great merit to himself for the wars he had waged, and the desolations he had been so successful in perpetrating on Protestants in France and Germany. He stated, that now or never was it for the Irish to stand by their religion and country, and he closed his harangue as follows:—'Stand to it, therefore, my dears, and be assured that King James will love and reward you; Louis the Great will protect you; all good Catholics will applaud you; I, myself, will lead you to victory; the church will pray for you; posterity will bless you; angels will caress you; God will make you all saints; and His holy Mother will lay you in her bosom.' This speech, of course, could be heard but partially by the officers and men; but a priest of great eminence, Dr. Stafford, crucifix in hand, went along the lines, and, with astonishing eloquence, brought all the inducements of time and eternity to bear upon the feelings of the soldiery. There can be no doubt but this man was sincere, and his devotions had a wonderful effect; he stood to his work the whole day, from the beginning to the end of the fight: there he was, passing from line to line, animating the men, and, when all was over, amidst the thickest heaps of slain he was found, cut down while exhorting the Irish to fight for God and their country. The Irish were superior to the British in numbers, especially in cavalry, but much inferior in artillery; they mustered about twenty-five thousand men. As I said, the battle began about two o'clock: the English attempted to turn the Irish right, near the house and high grounds of Urrachree; but they were repulsed with so much loss, that about four o'clock a council of war was again held, to consult whether it would not be better to draw off the troops, at least for that night; but, by General Mackey's advice (one of the best men and bravest officers in William's service), it was determined to persevere, and to send forward the centre to pass the marsh in front. That which was then a morass, requiring caution, even in those who knew it well, to pass over without sinking up to the middle, or being swallowed up altogether, is now a fine tract of meadow and pasture ground. Across the firmest, most practicable parts, the English now ventured to make their way, protected by their well-served artillery, which fired over their heads, and played upon the Irish who lay along the hedges that just commenced where the hill rose from the morass. The English, having passed the marsh, found themselves in face of the enemy, who had lined all the hedges, and had also made open and convenient places through which cavalry and artillery might manoeuvre. Here the Irish fought most heroically; and the push of pike and bayonet through the hedges reminds us of the same kind of desperate struggle that took place at La Haye Saint, on the field of Waterloo. The Irish regiments even drove back their opponents; who, told by their commanders that they must force the Irish from the hedges, or fall back on the morass and be swallowed up, fought like tigers; yet they were driven back, and were, while swamping in the bog, either killed or taken prisoners. Besteren thus, on their left and centre, the evening was closing, and the Irish had all the advantage. St. Ruth was heard to say, 'Now I shall beat back the English to the walls of Dublin.' Nothing could retrieve the battle but a charge of the English cavalry from the left, to try and take the Irish

in flank, and this charge must be made along a narrow causeway under the guns of the castle of Aughrim. They did attempt it, led on by Talmash, a man of ready enterprise, and of the most undaunted courage; and, like most valorous attempts, it succeeded. But while in the act, while struggling with their great difficulty, while scrambling over the torn-up causeway, and plunging on, St. Ruth was heard to cry, 'What are these fellows about?' 'Why they are about to turn your left,' was the reply. 'Then they are brave fellows,' said the Frenchman, 'but every man of them will be cut to pieces.' It was not so—they passed on like a hurricane—they took the Irish centre in flank, and were doing horrible execution, when St. Ruth, seeing that, against all military calculation, the English horse had forced the pass and were doing valiantly, rode down the hill with a view of directing a battery that was raised to flank the pass, to play on the successful enemy. When in full career he was shot by a cannon-ball. The place where he fell is marked by a small whitethorn bush; an aid-de-camp threw his cloak over him, but not before it was known to the Irish cavalry who swept by, and subsequently it ran along all the Irish line, that their commander was no more. The Irish are subject (more especially in their own country) to sudden panics. On this occasion, though they had, decidedly, the best of the day, though they had fought with a courage and discipline such as in their own island they had never shewn before, though they had fresh troops in abundance, yet all seemed paralysed, the battery ceased to fire, the Irish horse halted and delayed to charge. Talmash, who at once saw that something was gone wrong with the enemy, took instant advantage of the delay, he called on the English, both horse and foot to advance, the columns that were unbroken at the edge of the bog moved forward, those that had been dispersed returned to their ranks, and the whole centre charged up the hill. In the meantime, no one stood forward to command the Irish—not one direction was given—those who commanded the cavalry rode off the field in despair and indignation, the foot seeing themselves abandoned by the horse, fled and dispersed over the bogs, and all was cutting down, and remorseless slaughter, until night put an end to the pursuit. Sarsfield, who had the character of an active officer, and had proved himself able to act wisely in an extremity, should have taken the command on the fall of St. Ruth. It does not appear, however, he did; it is therefore doubted by some, whether he was in the battle; at all events, there was evidently a want of confidence and counsel between the French commander and the Irish officers; the presumptuous and ill-conceived contempt for the Irish, which possessed the boastful Gaul, was exceedingly offensive, and, it would appear, that he did not communicate his plans to any one: the result was as we have seen. Providence, in the midst of almost certain success, confounded the allied arms; and the death of St. Ruth sealed the destiny of the house of Stuart. The Irish left one-third of their army on the field. The dead lay, day after day, exposed; there were none to bury them—the country people had all fled—and the carrion birds came and banqueted, and wild dogs in packs frequented the field, and became so fierce, feeding on man's flesh, that no one might pass that way; and amidst this scene of pestilence and horror, there was one dog, a wolf-hound belonging to an Irish colonel that fell, and lay upon the hill-side; on this body the attached creature remained day and night;

with the rest of the prowling animals, dogs, foxes and wolves, he fed upon the corpses that lay around, but would not allow any thing, either bird of the air, or beast of the field, to touch his master; and when the bodies were all reduced to skeletons, when he was obliged to go far away, and prowled by night through the neighbouring villages, yet he came back presently to the place where his master's bones lay festering in slow process of corruption, there to keep watch and ward. A soldier quartered in Aughrim, six months afterwards passing by chance that way, saw the dog seated by the skeleton, and drawing near out of curiosity, the animal, fearing he came to disturb his master, flew at him, and the man surprised at the suddenness of the assault, levelled his musket and shot him dead. I shall conclude my sketch of this important battle," says Mr. Otway, "by noticing a prophecy which was prevalent among the Irish respecting it. A year before it took place, a Protestant gentleman living near Aughrim met a number of that nomadic race that existed in Ireland during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, called Ulster Creaghts, who roamed the country, desolated as it was by the wars of Elizabeth, Charles, and William, from north to south, and drove their herds before them, pasturing on the devastated lands wherever they chose. Meeting this gentleman just near the castle of Aughrim, they demanded of him what castle that was, and upon his telling them its name, they pointed to the hill of Kilcomedan, that rose to the south of the castle, and declared that before long a great battle would be fought there between the English and the Irish, and that the English would find their coats too heavy in climbing up the eminence. This prophecy was two-handed, and was interpreted by the Irish to mean their foes casting off their coats while running away from them. Colonel Gordon O'Neill, who lay wounded on the hill, and was (before he was trampled to death) taken prisoner and brought off the field, when he saw the British casting off their coats, in order that they might more lustily pursue and overtake the Irish before they got to the bogs, called to mind, with no small grief, the prediction of the Ulster Creaghts. The green hill of Aughrim is not alone memorable for the conflict that confirmed the dominion of England over Ireland, but like every other fine green eminence, it is the domain of the fairies. One rich in reminiscences of the 'good people' told me the following 'fact.'"

Here, we must conclude for the present, notwithstanding Mr. Otway's Will-o'-the-Wisp lantern is so temptingly displayed before us to allure our unguarded footsteps into the land of faëry, "situate," according to auctioneer phrase, in the marsh of the green and pleasant hill of Aughrim; about which, in rivalry of the Ulster Creaghts, we prophesy, that many will be the English visitors thereof, as well as of Connaught, this very autumn, in consequence of his agreeable volume: indeed we certainly perceived a movement among our assembled friends at Birmingham, for the purpose of viewing the Green Isle, not through the books of others, but with their own philosophical eyes.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A Narrative of the Discoveries of Sir Charles Bell in the Nervous System. By Alexander Shaw, Assistant-Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital. 8vo. pp. 232. London, 1839. Longman and Co.

PALMAN qui meruit ferat is an honest motto;

and this is an honest book, being a fair and straightforward account of the progress of discovery in regard to the Nervous System; and, consequently, to use another saying, to clap the saddle on the right horse. From 1811 Sir Charles Bell laboured with most philosophical acuteness and energy in this investigation. By his experiments he demonstrated that the anterior roots of the spinal nerves bestowed motion, and the posterior roots sensation. His experiments on the fifth pair and on the portio dura were equally original, ingenious, and conclusive; and Mr. Shaw shews that the results were published by him, in a paper 'On Partial Paralysis,' before M. Magendie or Mr. Mayo appeared on the stage: the latter being a pupil of Sir Charles Bell. These are the leading points which this volume seems to us to establish. In the course of his remarks, Mr. Shaw animadvertes on the errors of Professor Whewell on the subject, to whom he suggests the *ne sutor ultra crepidam*; and on the mistake of M. Müller in ascribing to M. Magendie Sir C. Bell's discovery, that the retina possesses an appropriate sense distinct from that of a nerve of touch. He also severely reprehends the useless barbarity of many of M. Magendie's experiments.

Blindness; or, the Second Sight Restored and Lost. A Poem in Three Parts, with Descriptive and Physiological Notes. By Andrew Park. Pp. 259. London, 1839. Smith, Elder, and Co.; Glasgow, Robertson; Edinburgh, Fraser and Crauford; Liverpool, Grapel; Dublin, Cumming.

The object of this volume would recommend any literary production in verse or prose,—it is to enforce the claims of the blind to the benevolence of their fellow-creatures who enjoy the blessing of sight. In furtherance of this holy cause, the author has described almost every species of blindness, and dwelt upon the privations to which the sufferers are exposed. Some interesting matters appear both in the poem and in the notes; but as the former does not demand a critical review, we shall content ourselves with bestowing our hearty praise upon the laudable design.

A Modern Pyramid to commemorate a Septuagint of Worthies, by M. Farquhar Tupper, Esq., M.A., and Author of "Proverbial Philosophy," &c. Pp. 322. (London, Rickerby.)—A fanciful vision, with certain not visionary discrepancies, introduces this Septuagint; for it tells us, in the first page, that the vision "was only a face," and then that a glorious living creature was growing to his knowledge, for "she wore the garb of woman." In the body of the work, we are made acquainted with seventy remarkable personages, from Abel to Felix Neef; and when they are poets, Mr. Tupper has given us examples of their writings, translated syllable for syllable, in their own rhymes. There is a good deal of imagination, and a good deal of talent, and a fair display of reading, in this volume, which we can truly say is a miscellany, whence both pleasure and information may be extracted.

Sketches of Married Life, by Mrs. Follen. Pp. 231. (London, J. Green.)—Inculcating evangelical religious principles as the only true sources of happiness in married life.

Maxims, Morals, and Golden Rules. Pp. 96. (London, J. Madden and Co.)—A hive of good selections from many excellent writers.

An Etymological and Explanatory Dictionary of the Terms and Language of Geology, by G. Roberts, author of "The History of Lyme Regis," &c. Pp. 163. (Longman and Co.)—A very much needed, a very useful, and a very excellently planned and executed little dictionary. In every science where technical terms are being perpetually coined, such aids are necessary to the learned as well as to the novice; and we deem that Mr. Roberts has conferred a great obligation on geology by producing the present volume.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

NINTH MEETING: BIRMINGHAM.

[Fifth notice.]

FRIDAY.

THE Sectional business of this day was principally conducted in Section A, Mathematics and Physics. The communication most in-

teresting, which we subjoin, was that from Sir John Herschel, respecting the action of the dissevered rays of light on the solar spectrum. Those papers relating to the effects of lightning on three of H.M. ships, by Mr. Snow Harris; to the determination of the arc of longitude between the observatories of Armagh and Dublin, by Dr. Robinson; and to the determination of the differences of longitude, by means of chronometers, by Mr. Dent, were also important; but as these subjects have been much before the public, and as the latter are still *in transitu*, we avail ourselves of the present opportunity to give a lengthened Statistical paper, reserving those read on Saturday for a future concluding notice.

STATISTICS.

Agreeably to our proposed mode of reporting the proceedings of this meeting, so fully as to embrace every topic of scientific importance, and every matter of practical utility—in short, every novelty of interest, without lending our columns, which might be more generally and advantageously occupied, to efforts for notoriety, which it is impossible altogether to avert on such occasions, we now revert to such papers in the Statistical Section as seem to us to be susceptible of beneficial application. All that we hope for in this rather recent branch of pursuit and inquiry is, that its active and zealous friends will not overlay us with imperfect and unconnected masses of data; but will adopt some system, and reduce their facts and observations to order as they go on, so that the cause of religion and morality, the blessings of a sound education, and the enactment of good laws, may be promoted by their labours.

Among the communications made, we met with none that seemed to square more completely with this view than one by Mr. M. R. Rawson, 'On the Criminal Statistics of England and Wales,' of which the following abstract appeared:—

"One of the most important branches of moral statistics is that which relates to the commission of crime; and it is one of those which is most easily susceptible of numerical computation. The nature of the act is generally sufficient to indicate the object aimed at; the sex, age, civil and social condition of the offender, point out the principal circumstances which influence the method of the act; the degree of instruction which the party has received, and the religious knowledge of which he is possessed, for both of which adequate tests may be prepared, shew the degree of moral restraint to which he is subject, and the intensity of the passion which bursts through that restraint; while the immediate motives, when not inferable from the visible circumstances of the case, will be found, upon investigation, to be few in number, simple in character, and easy of detection and classification. A committee of the Statistical Society of London, which numbered among its members several persons who have devoted much consideration to this subject, found that almost all crimes could be referred to one of four motives, viz. desire of gain, indulgence of sexual desire, malice, and wantonness. Of the above particulars, the criminal returns of this country exhibit only a part, viz. the nature of the act, the sex, age, and degree of instruction of the party committed for trial; and even upon these points there exists, in these tables, several sources of imperfection. The nature of the act is defined according to the technical phraseology of the law, neglecting the many important distinctions in the character and moral turpitude of

the offences. The degree of instruction, also, is not shewn in connexion with the age of the offenders; so that the influence of the former at various ages, and the progress of instruction at intervals of years, cannot be ascertained. Still it would be well if the deficiencies of these returns extended no further. But, with regard to the amount, and even the character of crime in this country, they are still more imperfect; and, if taken by themselves as the index of either, would lead to the gravest error. They exhibit only the persons committed for trial before the courts of quarter sessions and circuit assizes, or in local courts; and do not include those summarily convicted, or discharged by magistrates, or petty sessions. It will scarcely be believed, that of these last no general record exists: the only information that is complete for the whole of England and Wales, is the number of persons sentenced to imprisonment upon summary convictions, which has been collected and published by the inspectors of prisons, in their report for 1836. But this is only for one year; and the number of offenders tried and acquitted, or sentenced to fines, or other punishments, has never been ascertained. The average annual number of convictions before the quarter sessions, circuit assizes, and the local courts, during the five years from 1834 to 1838, was 15,874; the number of persons sentenced by summary conviction to imprisonment, during the year ended Michaelmas, 1837, was 59,364. If, therefore, the proportion of acquittals to convictions, by magistrates, be not less than that occurring before the higher courts, and there is every reason to believe that it is greater, the number of cases summarily dealt with by the former is at least four times as great as the number brought before the higher courts. But the returns made by the commissioners of metropolitan police enable us to form a more exact idea of the number of summary convictions. In 1837, the number of persons convicted by magistrates, within the metropolitan districts, for offences, exclusive of drunkenness, and other mere infractions of police, was three times as great as the number committed for trial; and the number acquitted was four times the number of commitments; so that the number charged was, altogether, eight times as great as the number brought before the higher courts. It is probable, that the proportion of summary convictions to commitments is higher in the rural districts, where the person charged must generally suffer a long imprisonment before he can be brought to the assizes, than in London, where he may be tried almost immediately before the Central Criminal Court. On the other hand, the existence and continual presence of an efficient police force in London causes a greater number of persons to be arrested on justifiable suspicion, against whom the legal evidence is insufficient to ensure a conviction. With regard to the character of the offences for which persons are summarily convicted, although it is true that a considerable portion of these are of a trifling nature; yet a large number of serious cases of the same description, and equal gravity with those tried at the assizes, are adjudicated by magistrates. It is obvious, therefore, that the criminal returns, in their present form neither indicate the whole number of persons apprehended or punished for serious offences, nor afford any information whatsoever with regard to petty offences, which form by far the most numerous class. There are, also, further difficulties in the way of inquiry into this subject. If the administration of the law remained stationary, the pro-

portion of offences annually determined before the higher and inferior courts, would continue relatively the same; but the criminal law of England is at present in a state of transition, and is every year undergoing great changes; local courts and petty sessions are increasing in number; capital punishments are being gradually abolished; large classes of offences are newly brought within the jurisdiction of magistrates; and thus the means of comparison from year to year are wholly destroyed. It must also be borne in mind, that the most complete record of the number of criminals arrested does not exhibit the amount of crime committed, as the former depends, in a great measure, upon the disposition of the parties injured, and the efficiency of the system of police. There is not in England, as in Scotland and France, a public officer in each county, whose duty it is to ascertain and record every offence which is committed; nor a public prosecutor, who is bound to exert himself to bring all offenders to justice, without reference to the feelings or desires of the persons who have been injured. Hence, crime may abound most where arrests are least numerous, and the very freedom from molestation tends to encourage and embolden the criminal. The average annual number of persons committed or bailed to take their trial before the quarter sessions, assizes, and local courts, held in England and Wales, during the last five years, was 22,174. The difference between the highest and lowest annual number during the period was 14 per cent. For the reasons previously stated, the annual increase or decrease is no index of the prevalence of crime, but it may be taken as evidence of the operation of the laws. In this point of view, there was a considerable decrease in the number of commitments in 1835 and 1836, compared with 1834, amounting, on an average of these two years, to 8 per cent; while in 1837 and 1838, there was an average increase of 4 per cent, compared with 1834, and of 12 per cent, compared with the two intermediate years. But it is worthy of remark, that this variation was very different in the two sexes. The decrease during 1835 and 1836 occurred entirely among the male sex, for the number of female commitments slightly increased; and the increase in 1837 and 1838 was more than four times as great among the females as among the males. The average increase of males during the last two years of the quinquennial period, compared with the average of the first two, was 5.9 per cent, while among the females it was 19.2 per cent. In consequence of this, the relative proportion of female to male offenders has increased 2 per cent during the five years. In 1834, it was 15.9 to 84.1; and in 1838, it was 18.1 to 81.9. The average of the whole period was 17.2 females to 82.8 males. The variation has also been very different in the several classes of offences. In the present tables the offences are divided into six classes, which have reference exclusively to the acts of parliament under which the offenders were tried. These consist of,—1st. Offences against the person. 2d. Offences against property, committed with violence. 3d. Offences against property, committed without violence. 4th. Malicious offences against property. 5th. Forgery, and offences against the currency. 6th. Other offences, not included in the above classes. A slight examination of these divisions will show that the principle upon which they are founded is highly defective; and this has been ably demonstrated by Mr. Symonds, in a paper read before the Statistical Society of London, and published in its proceedings. Another paper upon the

same subject, by Mr. Henry Romilly, of Manchester, appeared in the last miscellaneous publication of the Statistical Society of that town. That gentleman's views, however, do not accord with those of Mr. Symonds. The first defect of the present classification consists in the definition of the offences, which is legal, and consequently, technical. The same category, and sometimes the same term, embraces all qualities and degrees of criminality. An assault may mean either a violent attack, by which the life of an individual is sensibly endangered, or the mere act of laying a whip on a person's shoulder, without the infliction of a blow. Attempts to injure or murder, by stabbing, shooting, and poisoning, are all classed together, although they severally indicate very different offences, both in mode and in degree of criminality. But the classification of the offences is still more defective for the purposes of moral investigation. It is based indiscriminately upon the two double-test principles of the effects produced, and the means used, adopting sometimes the one, and sometimes the other; and not upon that of the motives which induce the commission of the crime, or the tendencies of which the act is the evidence. Mr. Symonds has suggested a new principle of classification, which we have adopted, and which we shall have occasion presently to explain. For our present object of shewing the relative increase of different kinds of offences, during the five years in question, the classes used in the official tables will be sufficient. It appears, then, that the number of offenders against the person committed for trial, has gradually decreased to the extent of 19 per cent on the average of the last two, compared with that of the first two years of the period. Malicious offences against property, compared in the same manner, have decreased 36 per cent; while offences against property, with violence, have increased 70 per cent, and offences against property, without violence, together with forgery, and offences against the currency, have each increased 19 per cent. The latter two classes are those in which the proportion of female offenders is greatest, and the former of the two includes more than three-fourths of the whole number of offences; hence the proportionally greater increase, already noticed, in the number of female commitments. But this comparison must not be used as testimony, with regard to the general increase or decrease of particular classes of crime, for it is precisely that upon which the recent changes in the criminal law has had most influence. Many grave offences have lately been brought within the jurisdiction of magistrates, and the establishment or remodelling of local courts, and petty sessions, has afforded increased facilities for the speedy trial of less serious cases, which magistrates were formerly unwilling to send to the assizes or quarter sessions. In order to afford a fair average for statistical deductions, the returns for England and Wales of as many years as the official tables have been prepared with uniformity upon the present system, have been thrown together. In most of the particulars this has been done for five years; but, with respect to the degree of instruction, the necessary information has only been obtained during four years; and some difference in the headings during the first year of that period renders it impossible to amalgamate the return with those of the subsequent years. The remaining number, however, is fully sufficient to form an average for the purposes of the present inquiry. The total number of offenders annually committed for trial, on the average of the whole period, is 22,174.

Of these, only a small portion, amounting to 537, 2.4 per cent, were sexual offences, belonging to the first class. All the crimes contained in this class, with one exception, have been already enumerated. The second class, consisting of malicious offences, is divided into acts against property, and acts against the person. The former subdivision is identical with the fourth class, having the same title in the official tables. The chief offences included in it are arson and wilful fire-raising, injuries to cattle, and destruction of buildings, machinery, trees, and other articles. The number of offenders in this class was very small, not exceeding 158, or less than 1 per cent (0.64) of the total number. The average annual number in the second subdivision, which consists of assaults, attempts to maim and murder, manslaughter and murder, was 1174, or somewhat more than 5 per cent (5.3). This class exhibits a striking instance of the defectiveness of official tables, in not separating attempts to maim from attempts at murder, the objects and qualities of which offences are wholly different. If universality gave a right of priority in the classification of crimes, as contended by Mr. Symonds, theft ought indeed to be placed at the head of the table. It forms 17.20ths (84.5 per cent) of the whole number of offences: This class contains three subdivisions. The first includes all kinds of theft without violence, such as simple larceny, stealing from houses or from the person; thefts and embezzlements by servants; stealing of animals of all descriptions; and receiving stolen goods; and is by far the most numerous, having contributed 16,663 cases, or exactly three-fourths (75.14 per cent) of the whole number of offences. The second subdivision, which consists of thefts by fraud, viz. simple frauds; forgery of deeds and other instruments, with the exception of bank-notes; and conspiracy to raise the rate of wages, contained 497 cases, or 2½ per cent (2.24) of the whole number. The remaining subdivision contains thefts by force, of which the chief are burglary and house-breaking, robbery and poaching. The total number of offenders in this section was 1579; and the proportion to the total was 7 per cent (7.12), of which burglars and housebreakers continued two-thirds (4.54 per cent.) The fourth class, composed of offences against the state, furnished 1506 cases, amounting to 6½ (6.77) of the whole number. This class includes coining and forgery of bank-notes, of which there were 855 cases, or 1½ per cent; a few cases of aiding smugglers; riots and breaches of the peace; resisting, assaulting, or refusing to aid peace-officers; prison-breaking, and returning from transportation; perjury, and administering unlawful oaths. The remaining class contains only 86 offences, or less than ½ per cent (0.39) of the whole number. To recapitulate—the proportion of thefts was 84.5 per cent; of offences against the state, 6.77 per cent; of malicious offences, 5.92 per cent; of sexual offences, 2.42 per cent; and of unenumerated offences, 0.39. Taking the twenty principal offences in their relative order, according to the number of persons annually committed for each, they will stand thus:—

| | |
|--|--------|
| 1. Simple larceny | 12,366 |
| 2. Stealing from the person | 1,539 |
| 3. Housebreaking and burglary united | 1,007 |
| 4. Stealing, by servants | 955 |
| 5. Assaults | 750 |
| 6. Receiving stolen goods | 683 |
| 7. Riot and breach of the peace | 607 |
| 8. Resisting, or refusing to aid, peace-officers | 579 |
| 9. Frauds and attempts to defraud | 425 |
| 10. Robbery, and attempts at robbery | 392 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| 11. Uttering counterfeit coin | 318 |
| 12. Sheep-stealing | 292 |
| 13. Embroidering | 292 |
| 14. Manslaughter | 209 |
| 15. Rape, and attempts to ravish | 188 |
| 16. Stealing from houses to the value of £l. .. | 178 |
| 17. Stealing of fixtures, trees, and shrubs | 163 |
| 18. Horse-stealing | 155 |
| 19. Pouching | 152 |
| 20. Keeping disorderly houses | 145 |

The nature of the inquiries deemed requisite for information in Statistics, and of the method in which they are sought, may be gathered from the following, among other papers distributed, in illustration of the proceedings of the Section on Thursday:—

"At the meeting of the British Association in Newcastle, the sum of £500 was placed at the disposal of Mr. Cargill, Mr. Wharton, Mr. Buddie, Mr. Forster, Mr. Wilson of Barnsley, and Mr. Johnston, for the purpose of making inquiries into the Statistics of the Mining Districts of Northumberland, Durham, and Yorkshire.

"In order to render the information collected on this subject more complete, and to give it, however imperfect it may for some time be, the character of at least a part of a whole, it is proposed to arrange the inquiries under the three heads of *Mining, Manufacturing, and Moral.*

"1. *Mining.*—Comprehending the geographical extent, relative geological position; number of seams or veins; average thickness; quality (if coal, whether fire coal, steam coal, fine coal, &c.); variations in strata; thickness and quality in different localities; nature of roof and floor, or of the walls of the vein; absolute contents; probable duration; of deposits of coal, iron-stone, lead, &c. Localities of mines; when commenced; most ancient workings in the neighbourhood; mode and mode of working, and quality then raised; absolute quantities of mineral now raised. Cost of raising the mineral; loss of, on the surface. Proportion of the entire ore or mineral left in the mine; peculiarities in situation; mode of working; different qualities how disposed of; home consumption; coast; London; export (foreign); distance from ports of shipment; conveyed by canal or railway; the latter worked by inclined planes or locomotives. Does the railway belong to the proprietors of the mine; is it carried by way-leaves; average cost of way-leaves per mile, or per ton transported. Number of workmen (men, women, and boys) above and below ground; average earnings. Upper classes of workmen—overmen, superintendents, under-viewers, &c.; how trained and selected. Safety of the mines; local difficulties in working; ordinary temperature of, evolutions of gas; kind and quantity of; number of accidents, &c. &c. *Faults.*—Number and general direction; effects on the position and quality of the coal; deteriorated or the contrary; to what extent; converted into canal coal?—See *Murchison's Silurian System*, v. i. p. 117; and 'Reports of the British Association,' v. vi. p. 84, of Abstracts. *Water.*—Feeders at different depths; quantity and quality of water; how removed, by engines or levels; effects of the workings on the general drainage of the springs on the surface. *Machinery.*—Engines employed in pumping and winding; construction; power; work done; fuel consumed; consumption of iron, wood, oil, leather, ropes, kind of ropes, &c. &c.—See *De la Beche's 'Geology of Cornwall,'* p. 550. *Capital Invested.*—In the mine; in machinery; in means of transport; number of horses employed by the mine; tons of shipping, &c. &c.

"2. *Manufacturing.*—Return of works immediately dependent on the mineral riches of the district; smelt mills; iron furnaces; glass works; alkali works; of chemical works in general; gas works, distinguishing those which work up the raw minerals of the district from such as depend on their locality for a supply of fuel only; quantity and quality of imported articles, and of the raw produce of the district consumed at each; approximate value of these; nature and value of manufactured products; where consumed; numbers of workmen; average earnings, &c.; healthiness of their employment; prevailing diseases; comparative longevity, &c. State of any of these manufactures, as of those of iron, soda, and glass, at different distant periods. Ancient bloomeries, aises, extent, mode of smelting; date, owners, &c. &c.—See *Murchison's Silurian System*, v. i. p. 122.

"N.B.—A distinct set of queries must be drawn up for each class of work.

"3. *Moral.*—Including the statistics chiefly of the mining population; its amount in general and in certain limited districts; in certain pitmen's villages: for example, on the Tyne and Wear, the Ayre, the Calder, the Don, &c. in the mining dales of the Tees, the Allan, the Wear, the Swale. Actual and average ages of the working population; number of children; state of education; general desire and facilities for; religious persuasion and means of religious instruction; general morality; state of crime against property, against person; habits as to sobriety, &c.; size and general cleanliness of their houses; salubrity of the village; medical statistics in general; proportion of disabled workmen; benefit and accident societies (statistics of). *General Industry.*—Age at which work is commenced; average period of cessation of labour; number of hours employed; actual and average rates of wages at different ages; strikes and combinations.—See 'Statistical Society's Queries.' *Family.*—Occupation of; do any work about the mines; kind of education they receive; skill in sewing, knitting, cooking, &c. On all these, and other topics not touched upon in this sketch,

separate sheets of queries must be drawn up, adapted, as far as may be, to the localities for which they are intended.

"It is of importance that these topics and queries should be properly digested, and put in as complete a form as possible, before they are sent out; and that the co-operation of many parties should be secured before any attempt is made to collect information. Prejudices must, if possible, be overcome; and by convincing parties that we have no private object to gain, we must endeavour to persuade them to lend their aid in securing the collection of this mass of information, not merely because it is likely to prove interesting to individuals, or to lead to important improvements within the mining districts themselves, but because it will be of great value also in a national point of view. Will you favour me with your opinion of this outline at your earliest convenience, and say if there be any of the departments or subdivisions on which, as a member of the committee, you would engage to draw up a list of queries; or in regard to which you would assist me with your suggestions? It appears advisable to adopt the present method of communication before calling a meeting of the committee, in order that when the meeting does take place, we may be prepared to adopt some previously concerted measure.

"Durham, April 1839. JAMES F. W. JOHNSTON."

Among the queries alluded to in the foregoing "N. B." we find these applied to a Mining, or Pit Village:—

What is the population—is it entirely a mining population?

In how many instances does more than one family inhabit the same house?

What is the size of the rooms in general?

Are there any instances in which brothers and sisters sleep in the same bed? How many?

Are there any instances in which a whole family, or more families than one, sleep in the same room? How many?

What is the general condition of the houses for cleanliness and order?

Have they generally pictures on the walls—of what kind?

How many houses have gardens attached to them?

Are they ornamental gardens, or otherwise—of what size?

Are pigs, poultry, &c., generally kept?

What increase or decrease has taken place in the population of the village during the last ten years?

An extract from the parish register of the births and deaths during the last two years, giving the ages.

The proportion of marriages annually to the population.

The proportion of legitimate to illegitimate births.

Is the employment of families in the mines supposed to influence the number of illegitimate births?

What number of children between the ages of four and fifteen are there in the village?

What number are receiving instruction in schools?

How many schools are there in the village?

By whom are they supported, or superintended?

Are they conducted on any particular system?

Are boys and girls educated together—and how many of each?

How many children above five years of age are able to read and write?

How many adults out of one hundred, taken at random, are able to read or write?

What is the average sum paid weekly for the education of each child?

How many attend Sunday schools—how many attend Sunday schools, and no other?

Do boys, after beginning to work, attend any other but the Sunday schools?

How many places of worship are there in the village, and of what sects?

What may the average attendance at each be estimated at?

Are the schools attached to the places of worship—and what average number of scholars attend each?

Do the female children generally learn knitting, sewing, singing, &c.—are they taught to make their own clothes, or domestic economy in general?

Do the boys learn the use of carpenters' tools, so as to be able to make or mend their own furniture?

General remarks on the description of education received, and whether any attention is bestowed on the cultivation of the moral qualities. What process of training is adopted?

Is there much desire for education evinced by the parents of children in general?

Are they given to reading—have they generally many books—of what kind?

Are the teachers regularly trained, or do they teach because they are disqualified for any thing else?

What branches are they qualified to teach?

What are the terms for tuition?

Is there any salary in addition to the fees?

In what estimation is the office of a schoolmaster held?

What is the average rate of wages earned by the able-bodied workmen, specifying the different classes—hewers, putters, banksmen, masons, miners, washers, smelters, &c.

What are the average earnings of boys?—of girls?

What is the average age at which boys and girls go to work above and under ground?

At what age do females generally cease to work in the mines?

At what age do men usually become disabled from work?

Are they paid by the day or by the piece?

Are the average earnings more or less now than formerly?

Are the occupiers of houses liable to be ejected at the will of the proprietor?

Average number of removals per annum?

Does the truck system prevail?

What shops exist in the village? Are they kept by persons engaged in any other calling or connected with the colliery?

Do the pitmen generally purchase their food, clothing, &c., in the village?

Do they pay ready money or take credit?

What is their usual food—how is it generally cooked—and is there any thing remarkable in their clothing?

What is the usual occupation of the women?

Do they generally keep the purse?

What number and proportion of the population are unable to support themselves by their labour?—from old age, from sickness, or from infirmities occasioned by accident?

How are these persons supported—by relations, by the owners of the mines, or from the poor-rates?

How many persons in the village receive relief from the poor-rates?

Is the proportion of such on the increase or the decline?

Are there any benefit societies established? if so, what are their nature and constitution?

State of Crime.—Annual number of criminals for the last five years. Proportion of male to female criminals. Of adult to juvenile delinquents.

What number of crimes against property—what number against person?

Age at which crimes against property prevail—age at which those against person?

How many public-houses are there in the village?

Are they much frequented; and if on some days more than others—what days?

Is drunkenness prevalent, and to what extent does it appear to conduce to crime?

What strikes have occurred during the last ten years?

What has been the duration of such strikes?

How did the men live in the interval? On their savings, or on credit?

If on credit, did they buy their goods in the village?

Were their payments faithfully performed, or did the shopkeepers lose by the men proving faithless to their engagements?

Are accidents diminishing or increasing in number? If less in number, does this arise from improvements in machinery, or from greater caution in the miners?

In what way is medical and surgical assistance supplied to the village, and what do the miners usually pay for such assistance?

As a specimen of the answers, those from the village of Hetton were given, and they are satisfactory as regards that locality. *E. gr.:*

How many rooms does each house usually contain?

In how many instances does more than one family inhabit the same house?—The rooms of the pitmen's houses are some 15, and others 16 feet square.

There are instances in which brothers and sisters sleep in the same bed whilst under 9 years of age, but not of family. In about six instances a whole family sleep in one room, but in no instance does more than one family. Personal cleanliness is attended to. The pictures on the walls are scriptural. All the houses have gardens attached to them; many ornamental; others vegetable; about 240 square yards. Pigs, poultry, &c., are generally kept. The proportion of legitimate to illegitimate births is about 20 to 1, rather less than among the agricultural and manufacturing population around. 1281 children in a population of 5567 (in 1831) receive instruction in schools; of which there are fifteen in the village supported partly by the Hetton Coal Company (to the amount of 36s. per annum), and partly by payments made by parties receiving instruction; superintended by masters, &c. on their own risk, except in the case of the national school. There are 785 boys and 486 girls at school; and the average sum paid weekly for the education of each child is fourpence. 837 attend Sunday schools; 408 Sunday schools and no other. Many attend night schools. There are ten places of worship, Established Church, Wesleyans, Primitive Methodists, Baptists, and Wesleyan Seceders, and the attendance estimated—Church, 380; Wesleyans, 486; Primitive Methodists, 370; Baptists, 130; Wesleyan Seceders, 14. Sunday schools are—Church (National), 135; Wesleyans, 302; Primitive Methodists, 200; Baptists, 60; Wesleyan Seceders, no school. The children are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, and the girls sewing in addition, with due attention to moral and religious instruction, particularly in Sabbath schools; they learn a catechism, read the Bible and New Testament daily, and commit to memory portions of Scripture as tasks. Hewers have 36, putters, 36, 36, banksmen, 4s. 7d., wagonmen, 3s. 6d., enginemen, 3s. 4d., masons, 3s. 6d., smiths, 3s. 3d., per day, with house, firing, and garden in addition; the hewers for six, and all the others for twelve hours per day. Boys about 16 years of age 2s. 3d. per day; no girls employed. Boys, 9 years old; no girls day; no girls night. Men usually become disabled from work at about 66 years of age. Men usually work under-ground from six to eight hours; boys, twelve hours. The ave-

rage number of removals per annum is about one in ten of the people employed. The truck system does not prevail at all. The shops are all kept by people unconnected with the colliery. In the village the workmen generally take a fortnight's credit, but if they go to towns they generally pay ready money. Their usual diet is a due proportion of animal food, roast and boiled, with wheaten bread; their clothing is good; and the women generally keep the purse. The paupers are about one in thirty. The effects of the strikes were such as to throw many out of employment, and to increase the poor's rate for a time.

SECTION A.—Mathematical and Physical Sciences.

Theory of Light and the Photogenic Process.

A letter from Sir J. Herschel was read, in which he described a remarkable property in the extreme red rays of the prismatic spectrum, which had occurred to him in his experiments on Mr. Talbot's photogenic paper. It thence appeared, "that the extreme red rays (such as are insulated from the rest of the spectrum by a dark blue glass coloured by cobalt, and which are not seen in the spectrum, unless the eye be defended by such a glass from the glare of the other colours,) not only have no tendency to darken the prepared paper, but actually exert a contrary influence, and preserve the whiteness of paper on which they are received, when exposed, at the same time, to the action of a dispersed light sufficient of itself to produce a considerable impression. When a slip of sensitive paper is exposed to a highly concentrated spectrum, a picture of it is rapidly impressed on the paper—not merely in black, but in colours, of which the red is tolerably vivid, but is rather of a brick colour than a pure prismatic red. What is remarkable is, that its termination falls materially short of the visible termination of the spectrum. The green is of a sombre, metallic hue; the blue still more so, and rapidly passing into blackness. The yellow is deficient. The whole length of the chemical spectrum is not far short of double that of the luminous one, and at its more refrangible end a slight ruddy or pinkish hue begins to appear. The place of the extreme red, however, is marked by no colour."

[The letter alluded to M. Arago's rather equivocal allusion to this fact in his account of M. Daguerre's process, and concluded as follows:—]

"It is impossible in this climate to form a brilliant and condensed spectrum without a good deal of dispersed light in its confines; and this light, if the exposure of the paper be prolonged, acts, of course, upon every part of its surface. The coloured picture is formed, therefore, on a ground not purely white, but rendered dusky over its whole extent, with one remarkable exception,—viz. in that spot where the extreme red rays fall, the whiteness of which is preserved, and becomes gradually more and more strikingly apparent, the longer the exposure and the greater the consequent general darkening of the paper. The above is not the only singular property possessed by the extreme red rays. Their action on paper, already discoloured by the other rays, is still more curious and extraordinary. When the spectrum is received on paper already discoloured slightly by the violet and blue rays only, they produce, not a white, but a red impression, which, however, I am disposed to regard as only the commencement of a process of discoloration, which would be complete if prolonged sufficiently. For I have found that if, instead of using a prism, a strong sunshine is transmitted through a combination of glasses, carefully prepared, so as to transmit absolutely no ray but that definite red at the extreme of refrangibility, a paper previously darkened by exposure under a green glass has its colour heightened from a sombre neutral tint to a bright red; and a specimen of paper,

rendered almost completely black by exposure to daylight, when exposed for some time under the same glass, assumed a rich purple hue: the rationale of which effect, I am disposed to believe, consists in a very slow and gradual destruction, or stripping off as it were, of layers of colour, deposited or generated by the other rays, the action being quicker on the tints produced by the more refrangible rays, in proportion to their refrangibilities. It seems to me evident that a vast field is thus opened to further inquiries. A deoxydizing power has been attributed to the red rays of the spectrum, on the strength of the curious experiments of Wollaston, on the discoloration of tincture of guaiacum, which ought to be repeated; but in the sensitive papers, and still more in Daguerre's marvellous ioduretted silver, we have re-agents so delicate and manageable, that every thing may be expected from their application."

A picture of the spectrum thus formed, by lamp or candle light, not being fixed, was exhibited.

The President remarked on the importance of the discovery, that the actions of certain rays interfered with the action of others, so that instead of one series of discoloration, for all the rays, as hitherto supposed, each was liable to be affected and modified by the rest.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

WE devote our poetic corner this week to two productions which we found devoted to the Antarctic Expedition, and forwarded to the *Erebus*. The poetic spirit of the first, and the genuine, home, natural, and female feeling of the last (for it is in a neat lady's hand), would recommend them, had they no other merit with a public so much interested on the occasion.

ON A FLAG PRESENTED TO CAPTAIN ROSS,

By a Lady, to be planted on the South Magnetic Pole.

FOLDED and quiet, like a snake asleep,
Yet beauteous in repose this flag shall be,
While the *Adventurer* ploughs the Southern Sea,

And fearless roams o'er the Antarctic deep,
Threading with untamed patience every steep,
And rock, and isle, and gazing wistfully
At every wild bird whose expansive wing
May tell him of some further shore, where sing
The halcyons on their storm-nests round the pole;
Then, beauteous banner—then shalt thou
And start into new life, and vigour give,
And like a spirit animate the soul,
Until the shout triumphant tell the tale,
That Man's proud foot o'er Nature doth prevail.
September 20th, 1839. P. G.

TO THE OFFICERS OF THE ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.

Go forth, adventurers on the ocean,
Go from your own, your fatherland,
We hail you with a strong emotion—
A brave—a noble-hearted band!
Ye carry not the cannon's roar
To echo o'er the silent seas;
Ye bid not on the peaceful shore
Loud wallings rise before the breeze:
Not yours the sounds of war and strife,
Ye go to bless our social life.

Your perils rough—your dwelling dreary,
We may not brave—we cannot share;
Yet when your frames with toil are weary
And when your hearts are filled with care,
Oh! think ye then, that many a sigh
Shall follow you to regions drear;
And oft in woman's gentle eye
For you shall gleam the kindly tear:

And better, too, than tears or cares,
For you shall rise our frequent prayers.

And when the Christmas fire is blazing
Upon the cheerful English hearth,
And happy families are gazing
On many a countenance of mirth;

We'll pause amid the social glee,
Or 'mid the solemn anthem old,
To think of those who on the sea
Are bearing snows, and frosts, and cold,
And pray that God will bless ye then,—
Our noble-hearted countrymen!

God speed ye, mariners, and guide
Your gallant vessels safe from ill.
But e'en if sorrows should betide
May He be near to cheer ye still,
And bring you to your country back,
Your nation's pride, your nation's glory,
To tell of all your wondrous track—
To have your names renowned in story,
And all the happiness to know,
Which home and country can bestow.
Chatham, September 17th, 1839.

FINE ARTS.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Character and Costume in Turkey and Italy.
Designed and Drawn from Nature, by Thomas Allom, Esq. With descriptive Letterpress, by Emma Reeve. Fisher, Son, and Co.

"THE following studies from character, in Turkey and Italy," says the preface to this interesting publication, "were taken by Mr. Allom, during a residence of some months in those delightful regions, while the brightest skies of the east and the west looked down upon the work of the painter, and imparted a portion of their own life and beauty to the efforts of his pencil: they are portraits of things and individuals as they exist, and claim at least the merit of fidelity. The series consists of twelve Italian subjects, and eight of Turkey; embodying many peculiarities of custom, manners, and dress, which have been seldom referred to by travellers, and never given to the public in a form like the present."

In a recent notice of "Constantinople and the Scenery of the Seven Churches of Asia Minor illustrated," we adverted to the frequent occasions which we had had to speak of Mr. Allom's talents as an artist. Another opportunity is here afforded us of doing so. Hitherto, the figures introduced by Mr. Allom into his views, although very appropriate, have been subordinate to the buildings and the landscape; but in the beautiful work before us, the figures are principal. They bear the stamp of truth, and are full of character and expression. Among the most striking are, "The Favourite Story-teller—Constantinople," "Peasant of Sora at the Shrine of the Virgin," "Goatherds in the Campagna di Roma," "The Brigand Family—Sonina," "The Fishermen of Naples," "The Slave-Merchant—Constantinople," "Festa at Sorrento," "The Halt of a Caravan—Sardinia," "Vintage of the Abruzzi—Naples," "Monks of the Trinity—Rome," &c.

We have expressed our opinion of the literary portion of the volume elsewhere.

VARIETIES.

Antarctic Expedition: Terrestrial Magnetism.—A letter, signed "Cui Bono?" in "The Times" of Thursday, expresses an opinion that all the experiments on terrestrial magnetism, made during the expedition in the *Erebus* and *Terror*, will be rendered nugatory, in consequence of the method adopted (by a *voltaic*

magnet) to magnetise the steel bars or needles. This, it is stated, instead of a direct north and south pole, creates a consecutive series of poles all along the bar, which must destroy all dependence upon it as a true indicator of polarity. We regret to read this, but trust that the writer is either misinformed or erroneous in his conclusions. He thinks, that the artist "in this city" (London, we presume,) who performed this operation, may have destroyed all that the patient research and ingenuity of Dr. Lloyd had accomplished in the construction of this complicated and delicate apparatus: but surely this cannot be so, since Dr. Lloyd himself not only superintended the magnetising, but visited the expedition vessels, and taught the exact manner of using it to such of the officers as were unacquainted with the process. Had the apparatus been imperfect, he must have seen and rectified the error. But, beyond this, Captain James Ross, on Friday, in last week, devoted nearly the whole day to a complete series of observations on board the Erebus, off Gillingham, to ascertain the accuracy of the instruments and the magnetic influences in the ship. These observations we witnessed, Captain Crozier being on shore verifying them by similar contemporaneous observations; and we can state, of our own knowledge, that they were most satisfactory. Knowing the scientific attainments of those officers, and especially Captain Ross's great experience in reference to terrestrial magnetism, we cannot but feel satisfied that the doubts of "Cui Bono" are unfounded.

—Ed. L. G.

Colour.—In a note to his translation of M. Arago's report to the French Chamber of Deputies, respecting the Daguerrotype, Dr. Memes observes that he is at a loss exactly to comprehend what M. Arago means by the expression *couleur locale*, for that photographic designs have no local colour. The word "colour," however, is in familiar use with engravers, who have nothing to do but with black and white, and their intermediate gradations, to describe what might with greater propriety be called "tone."

The New Art.—Unscientific persons making experiments with iodine ought to be very cautious, for it is a deadly poison.

It is in contemplation to make a very singular use of the Daguerrotype, at the inauguration of the iron railway at Courtray, if the weather should be favourable. The camera obscura, placed on an eminence commanding a view of the royal gallery, the locomotive engines, the carriages adorned with flags, and the greater part of the procession, will be open during the delivery of the inauguratory speech; a cannon-shot will be the signal for the whole assembly to remain perfectly motionless, for the seven minutes which will be necessary to obtain the resemblance of all the persons present. This picture will be put into a leaden box, to be deposited under the first stone of the foundation of the station at Courtray, in order to give to our posterity an exact idea of this grand ceremony. It is not said how many hundred years hence posterity is to dig it up to look at it.

A Company has been formed under the name of "Société Belge du Daguerrotype." It consists, says the prospectus, of artists who are accustomed to choose the most picturesque views of public edifices, &c. They will go wherever the admirers of public monuments and the owners of country-seats shall invite them. The society has raised funds to procure successively a great number of instruments. Those persons who desire to obtain photogenic

drawings may enter their names at the office of the "Courrier Belge," stating the views which they desire to have. They will be served in the order in which their names are inscribed.

The Earl of Lauderdale.—The death of this aged nobleman has been announced in the newspapers, and ought to be repeated by us, in consequence of his lordship's political and financial authorship. The pamphlets from his pen had considerable weight attached to them at the time that bullion and other questions occupied the public attention. In politics, Lord Lauderdale's opinions were, for that period, considered to be extreme; and his appearance in the House of Lords in the rough costume of Jacobinism made quite a sensation when the principles of the French Revolution were in vogue with the democratic party in this country. His lordship possessed much influence in many ways, and was often consulted on important occasions. During the latter years of his life, he passed his time rationally and quietly at his seat, Thirlestane Castle, near Lauder; and it is not very long since we met him taking his pony-ride in that neighbourhood, and apparently enjoying a green old age.

Uses of Beet-root.—The French manufacturers of sugar from beet-root, finding it an unprofitable competition against colonial produce, have, it is said, discovered that the article makes a very superior wine, and are all agog for this new superseedes of the grape.

A Property of Stone.—A Mr. John Mallcott, in a letter to "The Times" newspaper respecting stone for public buildings, mentions a property which we do not remember to have seen noticed before; viz. "that all stone made use of in the immediate neighbourhood of its own quarries is more likely to endure that atmosphere than if it be removed therefrom, though only thirty or forty miles."

Earthquake in Ava.—A dreadful earthquake visited Ava on the 23d of March last, and the shocks continued to be felt to the period of the latest accounts (April 8). The vibrations were from north to south, and every brick building in Amerapoora and the surrounding district was thrown down, burying hundreds of their inhabitants in the ruins; the earth was rent into wide chasms in many places, and torrents of water issued from them charged with a gray earth, and emitting a strong sulphurous smell. The bamboo and lighter dwellings escaped.

A series of earthquakes also shook the city of Messina during the 27th, 28th, 29th, and 31st of August. Those of the 28th were the most severe, and attended by a rumbling noise.

Hydrography.—A hydrographical survey of the Gulf of Corinth, and its surrounding coasts, is at present carrying on by two British vessels.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

Announcement.—In tenderness to the acknowledged sensitiveness of the author of the following letter, Messrs. Baily and Co. earnestly request that their friends, correspondents, and agents, will not allow its contents to transpire beyond their own immediate circle and connexions:—

"Strictly Confidential.

"To Messrs. Baily and Co. 83 Cornhill, London.
"Dear Gentlemen, — A writer in the 'Westminster Review' (No. —), at the end of a too-favourable notice of my humble productions, has thought proper to allude to certain private letters of mine, sent under the seal of secrecy from Germany; and, moreover, has ventured to promise, on my behalf, a new version of the 'Pilgrims of the Rhine.' To say nothing of the presumption of entering for a race with the Bulwer—especially when he had enjoyed a start of some years, before I was thus announced as saddled—when, had he been a common hack instead of a flier, there had been time enough for him to have walked over the course backwards, besides going on the wrong side of the post, and yet to have come in a

winner, as the kangaroo said after its fight with the long-armed baboon, by 'all sorts of lengths,' to say nothing of such a handicap: as to weights, with that fastest of false starts, an Anachronism—there were moral, physical, constitutional, and personal reasons against such a publication. As publishers, you are no doubt aware that there is, or was, such a book as the 'Universal Letter Writer,' professing, like the 'Ready Reckoner,' and others of the same tribe, to furnish forms or figures for all the ordinary purposes of life. Now, even in the most ordinary occasions, I have never yet found that either my feelings, or intentions, or the circumstances, would adapt themselves to the printed pattern. As a natural consequence, I was invariably compelled to write my letters, as it is called, out of my own head; but, as a good deal of my own heart somehow always entered into such epistles, it has always seemed to me that parting with them for profit would be next to, or rather worse than, selling my body. Some persons have undoubtedly intended their letters to come to light. Pope, for instance, wrote his celebrated epistles expressly for the press. The same may be said of Swift, and others of literary renown, who, evidently, contemplated not a two-penny, or a general, but a universal delivery. But such, on the contrary, is my own horror of seeing my correspondence in print, that, as my friends, male and female, are well aware, I never answer even an invitation or a billet-doux—except in person. Thus, the reader who has taken the trouble to peruse my works, must have observed, that, however apt to put the communications of others into type, I have been singularly shy of setting up any letters of my own. It is, perhaps, an excess of modesty on my part, but I cannot consider myself as a corresponding member of all societies. In the meantime, my peculiar delicacy, as before hinted, does not forbid my editing any private papers which may fall into my hands; and, accordingly, in that fashionable capacity, you may announce me as the patron, or foster-parent, or what you please, save author, of a collection of letters, indited by a family party, on a tour up a very popular foreign river. I propose, as godfather, to christen the work, 'Up the Rhine;' and, as one of the company, draws a little, you may as well add, 'with original embellishments.' In the words of Beau Brummel, I beg leave to introduce to you a 'damp stranger,' i. e., a copy wet from the press; and a single sentence, with a few figures, will secure to you the whole edition, from,

"Dear Gentlemen, yours very truly,

"THOMAS HOOD."

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

A Letter on National Education to the Duke of Bedford, from Lord Brougham, 8vo. 1s. 6d.—Historical Records of the British Army: Fourth Regiment of Foot, 8vo. 3s.—A. Romaldi's Holy-Fisher's Entomology, 2d edition, 8vo. 14s.—Mylne's History of England, 4th edition, 12mo. 6s. 6d.—Treatise on the Theory of Equations, by the Rev. R. Murphy (Library of Useful Knowledge), 8vo. 4s.—Select Poetry for Children, by J. Payne, 18mo. 3s.—Murray's Memoir on the Diamond, 2d edition, 12mo. 5s.—T. Kentish's Treatise on a Box of Instruments, and the Slide Rule, 12mo. 3s.—Architectura Domestica von de Chateaufort, imp. 4to. 35s.—Dictionary of Materia Medica and Pharmacy, by W. T. Brande, 8vo. 15s.—Xenophon's Anabasis of Cyrus, Books I. and II., with English Notes, by D. B. Hickie, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—The New Excitement for 1840, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—Tables for Calculating the Value of Estates, by J. Bright, post 8vo. 10s. 6d.—Le Page's French Master for the Nursery, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—Essays on Government, 8vo. 5s.—A Challenge to Phrenologists, fcap. 5s.—Few Minutes' Advice to Deaf Persons, fcap. 3s. 6d.—Deschamps' Treatise on Whist, Part II.: Laws, post 8vo. 3s.—Rumance of Private Life, by Miss Burney, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d.—Archdeacon Berens's History of the Prayer-Book of the Church of England, 12mo. 5s.—Memoirs of Charles Mathews, Vols. III. and IV. 8vo. 28s.—Ellis's British Tariff for 1840, 12mo. 6s.—Sermons on Important Subjects, by the Rev. C. F. Finney, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—Family Library, Vol. LXIX.: Life of Cicero, fcap. 5s.—Chambers's Educational Course, Moral Class Book, 12mo. 1s. 6d.—The Ladies' Knitting and Netting Book, 2d series, fcap. 4s. 6d.—Ruth and her Kindred, by the Rev. John Hughes, 18mo. 2s. 6d.—Robinson's Magistrates' Pocket-Book, by Archbold, 3d edition, post 8vo. 26s.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1839.

| September. | Thermometer. | Barometer. |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Thursday . . 19 | From 48 to 59 | 29.47 to 29.49 |
| Friday . . . 20 | 47 . . . 61 | 29.23 . . . 29.45 |
| Saturday . . 31 | 49 . . . 58 | 29.51 . . . 29.53 |
| Sunday . . . 22 | 47 . . . 58 | 29.52 . . . 29.58 |
| Monday . . . 23 | 37 . . . 59 | 29.66 . . . 29.79 |
| Tuesday . . 24 | 40 . . . 36 | 29.60 . . . 29.75 |
| Wednesday 25 | 53 . . . 67 | 29.70 . . . 29.75 |

Prevailing wind, S.W.

Except the 23d and 25th, generally cloudy, with frequent and heavy showers of rain. A lunar rainbow about eleven o'clock, on the night of the 19th.

Rain fallen, .95 of an inch.

Edmonton.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"C. S." and other correspondents, will be attended to as soon as possible.

Erratum.—In our last Number, page 605, col. 3, line 57, for "man," read "name."

ADVERTISEMENTS,

Connected with Literature and the Arts.

ELECTRICAL SOCIETY.—Notice is hereby given, that the Meetings of the Electrical Society will be resumed on Tuesday Evening, October 1st, 1859, in the Theatre of the Gallery of Practical Science, No. 7 Adelaide Street, West Strand; and that they will be continued on the Evenings of the First and Third Tuesdays in every Month, and their will be taken at 8 o'clock precisely. By order of the Committee, Sept. 14, 1859. E. W. BRAYLEY, junr, Secretary.

MARYLEBONE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, 17 Edwards Street, Portman Square.—The delivery of Lectures at the above Institution will commence on Monday, Sept. 30th. Terms of Subscription for the Lectures, Reading Room, Library, and Literary Meetings, Two Guineas per annum, or 36s. the Half Year; each Member is allowed to introduce a Lady to the Lectures. Classes for Instruction in French, German, Music, and Chemistry. G. H. GARNETT, Hon. Secretary.

ROYAL DISPENSARY FOR DISEASES OF THE EAR, No. 10 Dean Street. Mr. Curtis will commence his next Course of Lectures on the Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology of the Ear, on Tuesday, October 1st. For particulars apply to Mr. Curtis, at his house, 2 Soho Square. Mr. Curtis is a Member of the Royal Society, and of the various Disasters of the Ear, and of the Modes of Treatment, for the use of Students and Practitioners, may be had of all Medical Booksellers.

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A new edition.

COUNTRY BOOKSELLERS and the Public are respectfully informed, that Mr. Tegg, of Chesham, has purchased the entire Stock and Copyright of "Pickwick Abroad," or, a Tour in France. A new edition of this popular Work is in the Press, and will be ready for delivery in a few days, in One very large Volume, octavo, embellished with Forty-one fine spirited Engravings, by Covequill, &c.; also Twenty-three Cuts by Bonner. London: Printed for Thomas Tegg, 73 Chesham; and may be had, by order, of all other Booksellers in the Kingdom.

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On Sept. 30th will be published, in 8vo. price half-a-crown, with Lithographic Plate and Woodcuts, No. II. of the **JOURNAL OF THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**

Contents:—
Colonel Le Conte's Prize Essay on Pure and Improved Varieties of Wheat lately introduced into England.
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Mr. Venables, on the Detection of Pregnancy in the Mare and the Cow.
Mr. Main, on Plants Injurious to Clover.
Professor Schuller, on the Physical Properties of Soil.
Report of the Local Annual Meeting in May, and of the Oxford Meeting (with awards of Premiums) in July—Prize Essays and Premiums for Stock in 1840 and 1841—Rules and Regulations—Donations to the Library—List of Governors and Members to September 4th.
John Murray, Albemarle Street.

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7. Arabian Nights and their Origin.
8. Paul de Kock.
9. Des Chapeelles and Whist.
10. Music Abroad and at Home.
11. Miscellaneous Literary Notices.
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BLACKWOOD'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE, No. CCLXXXVIII. for October.

Contents:—
I. Torquato Tasso, or the Prison and the Crown.—II. On the Feigned Madness of the Gaiety.—III. Gaiety.—IV. Picture Galleries: National Gallery, British Institution.—V. Goethe's Life and Works.—VI. Whig and Tory Finance.—VII. Ten Thousand Years. Part I.—VIII. Henry Grattan. Part II.—IX. State Trials. Specimen of a New Edition.
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